

and  
**PEREGRINE  
NORTHORNE: PM  
NOT PREJUDICED**  
A hard lesson learnt  
about black youth  
COMMENT PAGE 19

**DANCING IN THE  
FOOTSTEPS OF  
WAYNE SLEEP**  
Stepping gracefully  
around Britain  
THE EYE

**REAL PAINTING  
IS REAL COOL**  
Highlights from  
Saatchi's new  
American show  
VISUAL ARTS, PAGE 16

**SURFING FOR  
SOULS ON THE  
INTERNET**  
The world's churches  
spread the word on line  
NETWORK, WITH PAGES OF JOBS

# THE INDEPENDENT

Tuesday 28 April 1998 45p (IR 50p) No 3,596

Today's news

## Tories face London choice

THE Tory Party may hold a mass meeting of London members at Wembley Stadium to decide who will represent it in the contest for the capital's mayor. Tories may be asked to select candidates from a shortlist drawn up by Conservative Central Office after consultation with local associations. Ken Livingstone, Labour MP for Brent East, is the London public's choice. **Page 8**

## Labour lampoon

TV COMPANIES are queuing up to lampoon the Government, proving that Tony Blair's honeymoon is but a distant memory. The day after it was announced that Mary Enfield is planning a pastiche on Peter Mandelson for the BBC, ITV revealed that it has a satirical sitcom in the pipeline featuring three fictitious Labour MPs. **Page 3**

## Buses for villages

ISOLATED rural communities in England are to get a £40m cash boost designed to bring back buses to village life, ministers will announce today. The Government is keen to promote public transport in rural areas. Ministers point out that 20 per cent of rural households do not have cars. **Page 5**

## Paedophile visits

A GIRL, 11, was visited by a paedophile yesterday. The girl made a number of requests to the man and was taken to his home. An ex-patient of a hospital, the girl was taken to her home. **Page 4**

Business news

## £25bn share losses

MORE than £25 billion was wiped off the value of leading UK shares yesterday as the FTSE 100 tumbled by 140 points on worries that US interest rates could rise. The FTSE-100 share index closed at 5722.4, down 141.5 or 2.5 per cent. Financial stocks were among the heaviest losers, with Halifax down 44p at 787.5p and Lloyds TSB down 36p to 901p. **Page 21**

Sports news

## Rugby names delay

THE England rugby coach, Clive Woodward, has been forced to delay naming his tour party for the southern hemisphere by two weeks in order to give his ailing players time to regain full fitness. Woodward, who has to select 36 players for the tour which involves test matches against South Africa, Australia and New Zealand, had 14 players either defunct or seriously doubtful at the last count. England's opponents have demanded that Woodward must do everything possible to ensure a full-strength team. **Sport, page 30**

## ANC in drive for peace in Ireland

By Mary Bradd  
and Colin Brown

SOUTH African government ministers arrive in Belfast today in an African National Congress delegation which is part of a growing campaign to underpin the peace settlement.

While there was no official confirmation of the claim by Ian Paisley that visits to Northern Ireland were also being planned for members of the Royal Family before the 22 May referendum on the Good Friday agreement, it was clear last night that an intensive drive is now underway to win a Yes vote.

Cyril Ramaphosa, the ANC chief negotiator during South Africa's transformation from apartheid to majority rule, two senior ministers in President Nelson Mandela's government, and the ANC's top lawyer are due to meet prisoners in the Maze.

A Sinn Féin spokesman said that the team would "bring a lot of experience of their own peace and negotiating process". Like Northern Ireland's South Africa's problems had seemed intractable but "they achieved a breakthrough there and it looks like there might be a breakthrough here as well". The spokesman said he was not aware of "decommissioning of weapons had been singled out for discussion".

Matthew Phosa, the ANC lawyer said last night: "We also had our share of having to implement difficult resolutions and agreements during the transformation of our country, which involved governance and the issue of armed wings of liberation structures." The issue of political prisoners would be discussed with "all other political parties", said Mr Phosa, a guerrilla commander during the liberation struggle.

The ANC team will also visit

Dublin and address public meetings there and in Belfast. Sinn Féin insisted that the delegation had been invited to point out the pitfalls in complex political negotiations.

The delegation's visit follows a bizarre Irish conference held in South Africa last May. Almost 30 representatives of all sides of the Irish conflict flew into the isolated De Hoop nature reserve in the Western Cape for a three-day gathering, organised by Irish-American academic Patrick O'Malley and hosted by Mr Phosa and Mr Ramaphosa.

Though the Ulster Unionists' David Trimble, the Democratic Unionist Party's Peter Robinson and Sinn Féin's Martin McGuinness attended, it was not clear if they communicated across the sectarian divide.

Meanwhile, the discovery of a body in a border area of the Irish Republic yesterday brought to a total of five the number who have died in paramilitary shootings so far this month. The killings have served as a reminder that some level of violence seems set to continue in the wake of the Good Friday agreement.

In Downing Street yesterday, Gerry Adams urged the Prime Minister to withdraw army patrols from the streets of Ulster. The meeting with Mr Blair was described by Mr Adams as "constructive", although Government sources said that with the killing continuing in the province the troops would remain on patrol.

Mr Blair will visit Ulster at least twice before the referendum vote and discussions are continuing between the main parties for Mr Blair to share a platform with the Conservative leader William Hague and Paddy Ashdown, leader of the Liberal Democrats, to promote a Yes vote.

## The ultimate sacrifice for sake of Tibet



Thupten Ngodup, a Tibetan exile, burning after he set himself on fire yesterday in Delhi. The image is taken from amateur video. Ngodup was protesting against police moves to halt hunger strikers. He had 90 per cent burns to his body, and doctors at the hospital where he was taken said his chances for survival were slim. **Protest ends in flames, page 14** Photograph AP/HQ

## Fine words, but no new cash as drugs crisis worsens

By Ian Burrell

THE Government announced yesterday that it would underwrite its new drugs prevention programme with no new public money, but by diverting a proportion of the £5m generated each year by confiscating the assets of drug dealers.

The money was dismissed as a "non-reliable drop in the ocean" by some drugs organisations concerned that large numbers of drug treatment centres are overstretched and facing a crisis in funding.

The long-awaited White Paper, *Tackling Drugs To Build A Better Britain*, unveiled by Ann Taylor, Leader of the House of Commons, contained no quick fixes to the drugs problem, but was designed as a "realistic" 10-year strategy. The programme includes giving

healthy lifestyle lessons to schoolchildren as young as five, to dissuade them from later experimentation with drugs.

Ms Taylor told the Commons that encouraging progress was already being made in the war on drugs. She said: "There are some signals that levels of drugs misuse are relatively stable across England and Wales as a whole. This suggests that drug misuse is neither inevitably bound to increase nor irreversible."

Roger Howard, chief executive of the Standing Conference on Drug Abuse, was sceptical of the worth of using diverted drug dealing assets to fund treatment and education initiatives. "It might be £5m this year, but it could be nothing next year," he said.

The White Paper's pledge to in-

roducing new drug treatment and testing orders to divert offenders from prison into treatment, could cost an estimated £40m alone.

The new strategy has been overseen by Keith Hellawell, the UK's Anti-Drugs co-ordinator, who has re-evaluated Britain's £1.4bn annual spending on tackling drugs problems in order to draw up realistic targets for the future.

He said yesterday that the drugs problem was costing Britain £4bn a year. "We must now shift our emphasis from reacting to the consequences of drug misuse to tackling its root causes," he said.

The strategy's first aim is to help young people resist drugs misuse. Specific targets will be set, including reducing the number of under-25s who report having used illegal drugs in the past month and

year, and reducing the number of under-25s using heroin.

The Government also wants to increase the level of knowledge among five- to 16-year-olds of the risks of drug misuse. But Mr Hellawell added: "We are not intending to talk to children of five years of age about crack cocaine and the paraphernalia associated with it."

Other key objectives include reducing the availability of drugs to five- to 16-year-olds and reducing levels of repeat offending among drug users. The Government is also anxious to ensure that young people have access to treatment programmes which are considered appropriate to their gender and race. Research in London, showing that one in four addicts was female, will be extended nationwide.

## Inquest hears of 'shaken baby syndrome'

By Andrew Buncombe

THE six-month-old baby whose Australian nanny has been charged with harming her apparently died after being shaken, an inquest heard yesterday.

Preliminary tests showed evidence of haemorrhage in baby Caroline Jongen's brain and eyes, suggesting she had been the victim of "shaken baby syndrome".

Pathologist Dr Freddy Patel said that while further tests, taking up to six more weeks, were required before he could be certain of the cause of death, the initial findings were "highly suggestive".

Meanwhile, Louise Sullivan, the 26-year-old nanny, appeared in court yesterday and denied that she had injured the baby.

Dr Patel was giving evidence at the formal opening into the inquest

on Caroline, who died a week ago after spending four days on a life-support machine at Great Ormond Street Hospital. She was taken to hospital on the morning of 17 April from a house in north London.

Yesterday, Dr Patel said his post-mortem examination would not be complete until he had carried out chemical tests on the baby's brain, eyes and spinal cord. But he told Stephen Chan, the St

Pancras coroner: "On initial examination, there was no evidence of any marks of violence externally."

"There was evidence of haemorrhaging in the brain and eyes - a combination highly suggestive of shaken baby syndrome."

Dr Patel said he would be consulting other specialists before making his final report to ensure there was no other possible cause of death. He said that,


provisionally, he would attribute cause of death to *commotio cerebri*, an internal cranial catastrophe, adding: "I must try to find out what caused it."

The inquest was adjourned for 28 days and the baby's body was released for burial.


Miss Sullivan's bail was renewed yesterday after she pleaded not guilty to a charge of causing grievous bodily harm with intent.



Sullivan: pleaded not guilty




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**TOMORROW**

■ Keith Cooper: from The House to the caff

■ Shake a leg: Hardy Amies on the shape of menswear today

■ Donna McPhail: potting the pink - why I'm addicted to snooker



**CONTENTS**

News	2-9
Foreign	11-14
Features	15
Visual arts	16
Health	17
Leader & letters	18
Comment	20
Obituaries	20
Business & City	21-25
Shares	24
Unit trusts	25
Sport	26-30
Crosswords	30 & The Eye 10
TV & radio	The Eye, 11, 12



Recycled paper made up 41.4% of the raw material for UK newspapers in the first half of 1997.

# End troop patrols, Adams tells Blair

By Colin Brown and David McKelrick

GERRY ADAMS urged Tony Blair to withdraw Army patrols from the streets of Ulster yesterday at their first meeting since the Good Friday peace settlement.

The Prime Minister told the Sinn Féin president the agreement was the "best opportunity for decades for peace in Northern Ireland which the people of Northern Ireland want".

Meanwhile, the discovery of a body in a border area of the Irish Republic yesterday brought to a total of five the number who died in paramilitary shootings so far this month. The killings have served as a reminder that some level of violence seems set to continue in the wake of the Good Friday agreement.

Speaking after the Downing Street meeting, Mr Adams complained that he had had to go through two security roadblocks in Belfast and that nationalists were being harassed

on the streets by troops and the Royal Ulster Constabulary.

He also called for the RUC to be disbanded, which was firmly rejected later by Downing Street officials, although they pointed out that a review of policing in the Province was part of the agreement.

The hour-long meeting with Mr Blair and a further 20 minutes with Mo Mowlam, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, was described by Mr Adams as "constructive" although government sources said that with the killing continuing in the Province, the troops would remain on patrol.

Privately, Mr Adams was concerned by the size of the "no" vote in the referendum on 22 May, and Sinn Féin regarded recent alleged leaks by Ian Paisley, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party, as a concerted attempt to destabilise the peace settlement.

Government sources later shrugged off claims by Mr Paisley that three members of the Royal Family will be visiting Ul-



Surveillance: Sinn Féin councillor Gerry Kelly with a bugging device found at his home at the weekend. Brian Harris

ster before the referendum. "We are not organising it, but we would not say anything in advance for security reasons," said one Whitehall source.

Mr Blair will go to Northern Ireland twice before the referendum, and Tory sources confirmed last night that the plans were still progressing for a joint campaign platform with

William Hague, the Tory leader, and Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader.

Mr Adams refused to make any commitment but he appeared hopeful that his party conference on 10 May will endorse his leadership to go for a "yes" campaign, in spite of the issues raised yesterday with Mr Blair covering demilitari-

sation, and the development of the Irish language in Ulster.

The latest Ulster killing came to light when a member of the public spotted a body, wrapped in plastic sheeting, 200 yards away from the border near the Co Lough village of Dromad.

Although there was no admission of IRA responsibility

for the killing, the circumstances were in some ways similar to those of IRA killings of alleged informers in the past.

In another development, Sinn Féin produced video footage of what it claimed was an ingenious bugging device said to have been found in the home of a relative of Gerry Kelly, one of its senior negotiators.

## Downing Street talks on union rights at work reach deadlock

By Barrie Clements

CRITICAL talks between the Prime Minister and union leaders over future of labour relations in Britain yesterday reached deadlock.

As a result of the impasse, the TUC scrapped a conference scheduled for 6 May which was due to discuss the contents of the *Fitness at Work* White Paper. The Lord Chancellor has

warned employees representatives that if there is no Government document by the end of the May, there is unlikely to be legislation giving new workers' rights in the next Parliamentary session. The Government's promise of new employment law was central to the union movement's support before the general election.

Senior union leaders yesterday interpreted the delay as evidence that the Government

was listening to the arguments of trade unionists. However, more cynical observers believed that it was a tactic to ensure that the White Paper would find no place in the Queen's Speech next autumn.

One of the most problematical issues is a proposed law on union recognition. While union members interpret the Labour Party manifesto to mean that collective bargaining should be backed by law where

a majority of workers vote for it in a ballot, the PM's office is calling for a more stringent test of support.

Downing Street believes that 40 per cent of the relevant workforce should endorse collective bargaining before it is granted, not just a simple majority of those voting in a ballot.

While union leaders yesterday told Tony Blair that the TUC was prepared to countenance a figure of 30 per cent,

they came away from Downing Street yesterday with the impression there was no room for compromise.

Mr Blair said he was prepared to meet the six-strong "inner circle" of trade unionists again in two weeks time.

It was made clear to employees representatives that while the White Paper would deal with a range of rights at the workplace, its contents has not been finally decided.

John Monks, General Secretary of the TUC, said that while the union movement was prepared to be flexible over union recognition, there was a limit to their enthusiasm for compromise.

The TUC leader said there was considerable support for the union stance on the Government's back benches and in the country. "We have been more than reasonable. We have more moves up our sleeves."

## Troops cleared in gun club case

AN SAS corporal and another elite soldier who admitted unwittingly arranging illegal "anti-terrorist" courses for members of the fashionable Mayfair gun club because of Army confusion about the law, were shown mercy yesterday.

Southwark Crown Court judge Peter Finkett told the "gallant" pair - known only as X and Y for "national security reasons" - that he was giving them an absolute discharge even though they had pleaded guilty to allowing members of the public use an array of powerful weaponry.

He hoped this would go some way towards "redressing" the suffering of former SAS man X, who was forced to leave the Army through no real fault of his own, and Y, a decorated one-time member of the Parachute Regiment's Pathfinder Platoon, who has since been transferred to another unit.

"The two of them had appeared here following misunderstanding by and confusion within the Army and Ministry of Defence as to the facilities available to the public, that confusion now having been remedied by an Act of Parliament," said the judge.

The court earlier heard the Army's ignorance of the law had allowed Manchester United footballers and England and Wales rugby players to fire "prohibited" weapons at the SAS's base at Hereford.

The judge said that while X and Y each admitted two "strict liability" offences under the Firearms Act of "possessing and transferring" assault rifles to members of the public on two occasions at Aldershot base in 1996, he was satisfied "no moral culpability attaches to either of them".

## WEATHER



### British Isles weather

most recent available figure 5pm local time  
C: cloudy; O: clear; F: fog; H: haze; M: mist; R: rain; S: sunny; Sh: shower; Sh: showers; Sh: snow; Th: thunder.

Aberdeen	Sh 9.49	Glasgow	F 12.44
Anglesey	F 11.52	Liverpool	Sh 11.52
Ayr	F 11.52	Isle of Wight	C 13.55
Belfast	Sh 11.52	Isles of Scilly	C 12.54
Birmingham	C 11.52	Jersey	C 12.54
Blackpool	F 11.52	Liverpool	C 12.54
Bournemouth	F 11.52	London	C 13.55
Brighton	F 11.52	Manchester	Sh 12.54
Bristol	C 12.54	Newcastle	F 13.55
Cardiff	F 11.52	Oxford	Sh 11.52
Carlisle	Sh 12.54	Plymouth	F 12.54
Doncaster	C 12.54	Scarborough	F 12.54
Edinburgh	Sh 11.52	Southampton	F 13.55
Exeter	F 14.57	Southend	F 13.55
Glasgow	Sh 10.50	Stornoway	Sh 7.45
		York	Sh 13.55

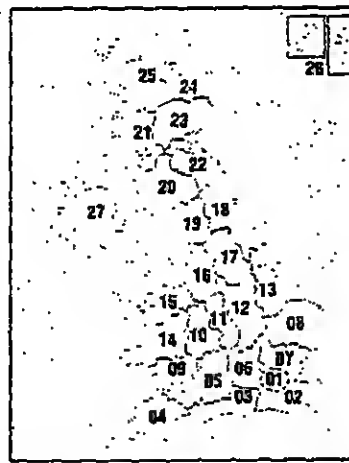
### Air quality

Yesterday's readings

London	Good
South East	Good
Wales	Good
Central	Good
North East	Good
Scotland	Good
Ireland	Good

### Outlook for the next few days

England and Wales will be mainly cloudy with outbreaks of rain on Wednesday, although the east will escape mainly dry until the evening. Northern Ireland and Scotland will see some decent sunny spells but there will also be a few showers around at times. On Thursday there will be further rain in many parts with only north-west Scotland likely to stay dry and it will turn colder everywhere. Friday will be cool with some showers in the east.



### World weather

most recent available figure 5pm local time

Algeria	C 11.66	Amman	C 11.66
Algeria	C 11.66	Amman	C 11.66
Algeria	C 11.66	Amman	C 11.66
Algeria	C 11.66	Amman	C 11.66
Algeria	C 11.66	Amman	C 11.66
Algeria	C 11.66	Amman	C 11.66
Algeria	C 11.66	Amman	C 11.66
Algeria	C 11.66	Amman	C 11.66
Algeria	C 11.66	Amman	C 11.66
Algeria	C 11.66	Amman	C 11.66

### INDEPENDENT Weatherline

For the latest forecasts call 0891 6009 (openers for the day) for your local independent weather station. See the full details on page 28 of the Independent.

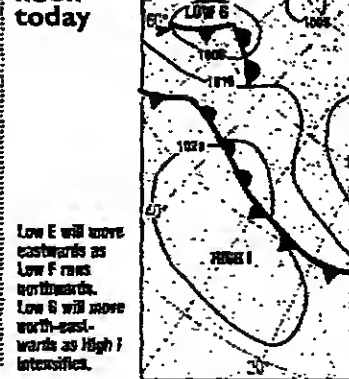
Highs	AM	HT	PM	HT
London	03.44	7.6	16.12	7.6
London	03.44	7.6	16.12	7.6
London	03.44	7.6	16.12	7.6
London	03.44	7.6	16.12	7.6
London	03.44	7.6	16.12	7.6
London	03.44	7.6	16.12	7.6
London	03.44	7.6	16.12	7.6
London	03.44	7.6	16.12	7.6
London	03.44	7.6	16.12	7.6
London	03.44	7.6	16.12	7.6

### Lighting-up times

River	20.54	16.04	16.04
London	20.54	16.04	16.04
London	20.54	16.04	16.04
London	20.54	16.04	16.04
London	20.54	16.04	16.04
London	20.54	16.04	16.04
London	20.54	16.04	16.04
London	20.54	16.04	16.04
London	20.54	16.04	16.04
London	20.54	16.04	16.04

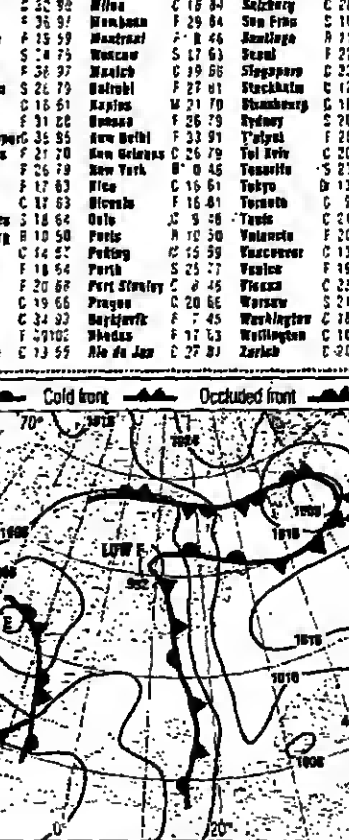
### Atlantic chart, noon today

Low E will move northwards. Low F will move northwards. Low G will move northwards.



### Atlantic chart, noon today

Low E will move northwards. Low F will move northwards. Low G will move northwards.



### MICHAEL HANLON

WEATHER WISE

Quite possibly. It is not the warm water per se that is keeping the sharks away. Sharks eat fish and seals (and sometimes, it must be said, scuba divers). Fish and seals eat smaller fish, and they in turn eat plankton. Plankton depend on the nutrients brought up by cold polar waters, and it is the lack of these nutrients that has had such a dramatic effect on the aquatic food chain in the east Pacific. If El Niño is indeed replaced by La Niña later this year, surface temperatures in the places to which Mr Sutherland refers could drop several degrees, the plankton would be back and so would the sharks, which apparently appear in shoals consisting of hundreds of the ferocious predators in the shallow waters above a submerged seamount, a few miles off the coast of La Paz, in Mexico's Baja California. I am off to this part of the world in a few days time, and will be able to see for myself whether the sharks are indeed showing signs of a comeback. Though I'm not sure quite how closely I will want to investigate the matter.

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**DELL**



# Tehran lifts veil from the spy who never was

By Steve Crawshaw

LAST WEEK, Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, helped press a case for the arrest of an Iranian spy, an alleged "Mr. Gavin" who was arrested in Iran, accused of espionage. The Iranian Foreign Minister, Kamal Kharrazi, yesterday said that the report was accurate but old; the arrest took place several months ago.

Yesterday afternoon, the Foreign Office was still chasing up the alleged "Mr. Gavin". But the

Iranian embassy confirmed that the reports in fact referred to the prize-winning British film-maker, Gwynne Roberts — as indicated in yesterday's *Independent*. (Mr Roberts' name was almost correct, taking into account Persian transliteration (where Gavin and Gwynne are the same). But almost everything else about the story seems to have been fiction. According to the foreign minister, Mr Kharrazi, "He was

arrested when, having travelled to Kurdistan as a reporter, he was taking films in an area which was off-limits to the public. After that he was set free, and at the moment he is not in Iran."

In reality, Mr Roberts was arrested (and then released) before filming in Kurdistan. He was briefly held when he was in Tehran last November for a Channel Four *Dispatches* programme about the plight of

those who were gassed by Saddam Hussein's forces in Halabja 10 years ago. Mr Roberts, who has been making films about the Middle East for the past 20 years, gained permission both from the Ministry of Islamic Guidance (the journalists' minders) and from the authority responsible for border security. It does not seem likely that such permission would have been granted to a known spy.

He emphasised yesterday that he had not filmed in off-limits military areas. "I've been in the business long enough to know you don't do that. It would be absolutely crazy."

The Foreign Office said that it was "continuing to press for the facts". A spokesman described as "pure speculation" the suggestion that Iran had been riled by Mr Cook's speech, and had decided to hit back.

## Branagh deeply serious — for all of 20 minutes

By David Lister  
Arts News Editor

ONE OF the most significant British movies of the year started shooting yesterday. It had a starry cast, a deeply serious intent, and was all of 20 minutes long.

Paul McGann, Kenneth Branagh and Sam West will have a few minutes' screentime each in *The Dance of Shiva*, with a host of Oscar-winning British talent on the other side of the camera. And, while they shoot *The Dance of Shiva*, which describes the untold story of Indian troops in the First World War, a fly-on-the-wall documentary team will film them at work.

Cinematographer Jack Cardiff, now in his eighties, won an Oscar for *Black Narcissus* back in the Forties, and production designer John Box has four, for *Lawrence of Arabia*, *Dr Zhivago*, *Oliver* and *Nicholas and Alexandra*.

Costume designer Julie Harris worked on *Rollerball*, sound recordist John Mitchell on *The 39 Steps* and editor Julian Doyle on *Braveheart*. All have agreed to make the film for little or no money to pass on their enthusiasm for their craft.

The coming together of such a crew led to a day of swapping anecdotes as well as film production — Jack Cardiff, who worked on *The African Queen*, recalling how everyone on the set got dysentery except for the director John Huston and star Humphrey Bogart: the reason, it emerged, was



On the set: Main picture, Kenneth Branagh talking to production designer John Box during the making of *The Dance of Shiva*, which was recorded by a fly-on-the-wall documentary team. Below, Paul McGann being filmed in his role as chaplain

Photographs: Tom Pilton

that the two of them only drank whisky.

Both yesterday's 20-minute film and the documentary are intended for film festival, video and television release.

The producer and director Jamie Payne, who came up with the idea, said: "Not everyone has the opportunity or desire to go to film school. The recent success of Shane Meadows and Quentin Tarantino is testament to the fact that there are other ways to become a film-maker."

According to the producers, Paul McGann, who plays a chaplain, is passionate about film education.

He is working for no pay at all. McGann, star of the cult film *Withnail & I*, already has a strong following among film students. He fulfills Dame Judi Dench's recent exhortation to actors to keep a sense of mystique.

On his sideboard is a copy of the memoirs of the great British director Michael Powell, which has been dedicated by his widow, the film editor Thelma Schoonmaker, to McGann, "who knows not to give it all away."

That is one of the lessons he and his colleagues will be hoping to convey to the next generation.



## TV sitcom to lampoon Labour MPs

By Paul McCann  
Media Editor

TELEVISION companies are queuing up to lampoon the Labour government, proving that Tony Blair's honeymoon is but a distant memory. The day after it was announced that Harry Enfield is planning a pastiche on Peter Mandelson for the BBC, ITV revealed that it has a satirical sitcom in the pipeline featuring three fictitious Labour MPs.

ITV wants *Birds Of A Feather* star, Pauline Quirke, to play a character based on Clare Short in the programme. The broadcaster is debating whether to call it *New Labour New Sitcom*, or *On Message*.

The Clare Short character is a traditional Old Labour left-winger who played along with Tony Blair's changes to the party before the election, but is now disappointed at the Government's cautious approach to power.

She shares a flat with two other backbenchers, one based on Michael Foot, who ITV wants to be played by Peter O'Toole, and a young ambitious Blair loyalist who believes everything the party tells him.

The sitcom is being written by political journalist and broadcaster Simon Hoggart and is being made by London Weekend Television for the ITV network. "It is a cross between *Yes Minister* and *Yes, Minister*," said Marcus Plantin, director of programmes at LWT. "It shows that the honeymoon is over and that the government is facing a satire boom."

The programme will follow the example of *Drop The Dead Donkey* by being filmed in the week of transmission so it can include topical references and jokes.

LWT also revealed at the Montreux Television Festival that it had been planning a special World Cup game show, *Best of Enemies*, that would have featured the English football squad competing against the German team to answer questions on football trivia.

However, the German national team pulled out last week and a spokesman said Germany did not consider England an enemy. Instead, the Germans said, they wanted to take on the Dutch. As well as the present squad the show was set to star Geoff Hurst, scorer of the winning goal in the 1966 World Cup final.

In more innocent times the *Blankety-Blank* cheque book and pen was enough to excite the contestants of your average television quiz show. But in a sign of the avaricious times ITV has announced plans for the world's first £1m quiz show.

Titled *Who Wants To Be A Millionaire*, the show resembles *Twenty-One*, the Fifties American programme that was the inspiration for the movie *Quiz Show*. The programme is the logical culmination of years of prize-giving inflation and the heightened appetite for free money created by the National Lottery.

Before the 1990 Broadcasting Act the most anyone could win was £5,000 cash, and total prize money for a show could not exceed £6,000. Instead television companies gave away cars and holidays to get around the restrictions. Since the limit was lifted, show prizes have progressively spiralled first to £10,000, then £20,000 and recently to £100,000.

Now Camelot, through the BBC, also gives winners on *The National Lottery Big Ticket* show £100,000.

## First three months of 1998 warmest period on record

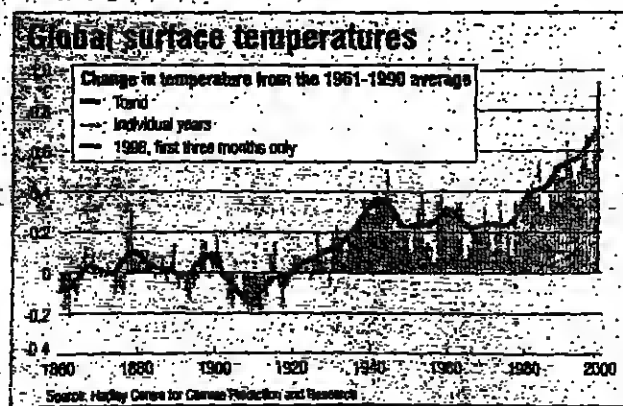
By Michael McCarty  
Environment Correspondent

JANUARY, February and March this year were the warmest three-month period ever recorded for the world, new British figures reveal. The global average temperature for the quarter was well over half a degree higher than normal.

The figures will give further credence to the belief that global warming caused by industrial exhaust gases such as carbon dioxide is inexorably changing the world's climate.

The rise indicates that 1998 as a whole will be extremely warm, and perhaps warmer than the three previous warmest years, which are 1997, 1995 and 1990.

However, soaring temperatures in the Southern Hemisphere summer, helped by the El Nino weather phenomenon, have pushed the figure up, and the average for the year as a whole may fall back if and when the El Nino effect declines later this year.



The global surface temperature record, which goes back to 1860 and is maintained at the Met. Office's Hadley Centre for Climate Prediction and Research in Bracknell, Berks, now shows that the first three months of 1998 were 0.6°C above the global mean, which is the average temperature of the years 1961 to 1990.

However it seems that securitisation, already big in the United States, is set to be increasingly common. Following David Bowie's deal, a number of US banks had reportedly been trying to persuade other musicians to take up similar deals. Other big names from the world of popular music said to be considering deals include Pink Floyd, Bob Dylan, the Rolling Stones and Dire Straits.

A spokeswoman for Mr

This makes these months both the warmest January, February and March ever recorded, and also the warmest of any three-month period since the records began.

This year's first quarter was also Britain's second warmest winter on record, 2.4°C above the average, surpassed in the Central England Temperature record — which goes back to 1659 — only by 1990.

"This year is likely to be very warm but not necessarily the warmest because the El Nino effect may weaken later on," said Briony Horton, manager of the Hadley Centre's global data archive. "But the temperature anomaly for the first three months is certainly very large."

Nine out of the 10 warmest years recorded have occurred since 1983.

## £9m loan for Rod Stewart in royalties deal

By Andrew Buncombe

THE man who once thrust his staid-clad crotch at his admiring fans and demanded to know "Do ya think I'm sexy?", has moved into the more sanitised world of securitised loans.

Rod Stewart, for some one of the finest white rock voices of a generation, has clinched a £9.2m securitised loan based on the future royalties of his songs. In short, this means he is receiving now the royalties he would receive over the coming years.

Many people who sang along to songs such as "Maggie May" and "Sailing" back in the Seventies will undoubtedly find the thought of Rod Stewart entering the world of corporate finance slightly strange. But Mr Stewart, 53, who once was considered something of an innovator, is merely following a trend: last year David Bowie raised around £35m in a similar record-making deal.

While such deals are good for the person receiving the loan, it is slightly more risky for the bank issuing the bonds, be-

cause the basis for future income is the notoriously fickle public taste.

However it seems that securitisation, already big in the United States, is set to be increasingly common. Following David Bowie's deal, a number of US banks had reportedly been trying to persuade other musicians to take up similar deals. Other big names from the world of popular music said to be considering deals include Pink Floyd, Bob Dylan, the Rolling Stones and Dire Straits.

Stewart's record company said she was not aware of the details of the deal, but did not think he had any particular need for the money. The loan has been made by Nomura Capital, a Japanese banking group, who has been working on the deal for several months.

"We see this as an important transaction because the Rod Stewart music catalogue is of global renown," said the company's executive vice president of entertainment finance, Neil Sacker.

Leading article, page 18

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# Girl visited paedophile in 'secure' hospital

A GIRL of eight frolicked with a convicted paedophile sometimes dressed only in her knickers during visits to a high security hospital, an inquiry into one of its units heard yesterday.

The child made a number of unsupervised visits to the ward with her father, a former patient, and would play in the garden with a man convicted of sex crimes against young girls, it was claimed.

Stephen Daggett, who was a patient in the Personality Disorder Unit (PDU) of Ashworth special Hospital on Merseyside, told the inquiry into its running that he "blew the whistle" because of his concerns about the girl's visits. He had also been worried about the availability of drugs, alcohol and pornography.

Daggett, who was found guilty in 1984 of sexually assaulting girls, told the third and

final sitting of the inquiry at Knutsford Crown Court, Cheshire, that the girl, Child A, would go with Peter Hemming into unsupervised areas of Lawrence Ward.

Hemming, described by John Royce, QC, counsel for the inquiry, as a man with a "history of paedophilia with young girls", was a fellow patient of Daggett's on Lawrence Ward in the PDU where Daggett stayed from 1993 until he absconded in September 1996 during a lone escort shopping trip to Liverpool.

During his time on the run, some of which was spent in Holland, Daggett began making his allegations about the PDU.

After his return in October 1996 he wrote a document entitled *Ashworth Hospital - My Concerns*, which has been submitted to the inquiry committee

which began its work last February. He said his running away had been carefully planned and was a protest against his treatment and the "environment" of the unit and the activities there.

It was those concerns that had led him to write the document which resulted in the current inquiry chaired by Judge Peter Fallon, QC.

Daggett said that during her visits had seen Child A dressed only in her knickers "three or four times". He had witnessed her playing games in the garden with Hemming - games that he did not believe to be "for the child's benefit".

Daggett, now a patient at Rampton special hospital, said he had also seen photographs of Child A in Hemming's room. In the pictures she was dressed in pink pyjamas and in her

school uniform, he said. He believed the girl's father had been given money by Hemming for his contact with her.

However, under cross-examination by Philip Engelmon, counsel for the Royal College of Nursing, Daggett said he had never witnessed sexual activity taking place between Child A and Hemming.

The inquiry was ordered by former Secretary of State for Health Stephen Dorrell following Daggett's claims. The hearing continues today.

Five prison officers were injured when more than 30 prisoners took control of part of a jail, damaging furniture and windows, it emerged yesterday.

Prison staff at Full Sutton, Humberside, have regained control after 32 inmates in D wing began rioting. Five prison officers were injured.



Down the Tube Graeme Garden, Humphrey Lyttelton, Barry Cryer and Tim Brooke-Taylor sitting on a bench at the reopening of Mornington Crescent, the Northern Line Tube station they made famous in a Radio 4 quiz. Photograph: Andrew Burren

## Lawrence murder 'not racial'

By Kathy Marks

A DETECTIVE who investigated the murder of the black teenager Stephen Lawrence yesterday dismissed the idea that it was racially motivated, saying his attackers had been out to kill someone, regardless of colour.

Former detective sergeant John Davidson told the public inquiry into Stephen's death that the five suspects, members of a 'white' gang, had been linked to violent assaults on two white youths. "This was not racism, this was pure, bloody-minded thuggery. Stephen would have been killed had he been black, white, green, blue or yellow. They picked on him because he was there, not for any other reason."

Stephen, 18, was stabbed at a bus stop in Eltham, south-east London, in 1993. The inquiry is examining whether racism hindered the investigation. At the Old Bailey in 1996, Neil Acourt, Gary Dobson and Luke Knight were acquitted of killing Stephen. Charges against Jamie Acourt, Neil's brother, and David Norris were dropped at an earlier stage.

Mr Davidson, who retired last month, was accused by Michael Mansfield, QC, for the Lawrence family, of "writ-

ing off" a number of important witnesses and "queering the pitch" in relation to local teenagers who knew the suspects. "I completely and utterly disagree with you," he said. "No one would give evidence against these lads: they were frightened of them."

Questioned by Jeremy Gompertz, QC, for the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, Mr Davidson said that later, when he was in the South-East Regional Crime Squad, he arrested Norris's father, Clifford, who was wanted by Customs. He was later tried and convicted.

Mr Davidson said he did not know the families of any of the suspects when he joined the Lawrence investigation.

"So if it be suggested in any shape or form that you held back deliberately for corrupt reasons, what do you say about that?" Mr Gompertz asked. "I refute it completely," he replied.

Cross-examined by Mr Mansfield, Mr Davidson said he found a diary kept by Michelle Casserley, a friend of the suspects, during a search of her home. In it, she had written: "Acourt stabbed black boy up Well Hall Road. Jamie and Neil. Gary, David, Lukic."

The inquiry continues today.

### Parental choice warning

MINISTERS yesterday told local authorities that they must not cut class sizes by taking children out of popular schools to fill places in unpopular ones.

They sent out new guidelines as part of their pledge to reduce all infant class sizes below 30.

Critics have said that the policy will threaten parental choice because schools will have to turn children away from popular schools when class sizes reach 30. But the guidelines say "where extra places are needed they should be created in popular, over-subscribed schools with high standards".

### Driver denies food bug link

A DRIVER who delivered meat to a church lunch in Wishaw, Lanarkshire, which has been linked to the poisoning of pensioners, denied turning off a refrigerator to listen to his radio, a fatal accident inquiry heard yesterday.

Ronald Holloway, from Wishaw, also said he had no formal hygiene training during the years he had worked for John M Barr and Son, the butcher's shop which was linked to the world's worst *E. coli* outbreak. He was giving evidence to the inquiry into the food poisoning which claimed the lives of 21 elderly people in 1996 and 97. The Motherwell hearing is expected to last three months.

### HIV tests in pregnancy

PREGNANT women should be offered HIV tests to help protect their babies from infection, a report said yesterday.

The Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health and the Public Health Laboratories Service said tests should be available in all ante-natal clinics. About 300 babies are born HIV positive in the UK each year and a majority of the mothers were unaware they had the virus.

### Collimore cleared of assault

FOOTBALLER Stan Collimore was yesterday found not guilty of punching his ex-girlfriend during a row over access to their son. England and Aston Villa striker Collimore hugged his agent when magistrates in Cannock, Staffordshire returned after an hour's deliberation to acquit him. Magistrates chairman Rosemary Taylor told the player: "We find there is reasonable doubt and therefore find you not guilty. You are free to go."

The soccer star had denied a charge of common assault on Michelle Green, 23, on 22 December last year. It was alleged that an argument had developed during a discussion about Collimore's access to his son Thomas - now two - over Christmas.



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### A rose by any other name ...

PERHAPS William Hague is more Shakespearean in character than Pandora had previously believed. The *Liberal Democrat* has just published an account of the recent 175th anniversary dinner of the Oxford Union which casts a new, possibly darker light on Young William.

An informant overheard solicitor Philip Goldenberg asking another returning Union member if he recalled a tribunal of inquiry into possible misdeeds during a long-ago Union election. "Oh hell, yes I do," said William Hague, who had appeared as an "alleged miscreant" before the other man. "When you were running for public office last year," continued Goldenberg, "I very nearly wrote to *The Independent* pointing out that, while you appeared before me, you did not feature in my judgment; and that I was forced into concluding either that you were as pure as the driven snow, or that you had a pretty good capacity to work through a heap of shit and come out smelling of roses." Hague reportedly found this very funny. Still, Richard III he's not.

### Model temper flares again

NAOMI CAMPBELL is upset, once again, with American fashion magazines for not featuring enough black women on their covers. Last July, Anna Wintour, editor of



*American Vogue*, admitted that skin colour "dramatically affects newsstand sales". Campbell was upset last week with *Harper's Bazaar* which failed to put her on the cover of the issue which featured a Cuban fashion shoot - one Naomi herself had arranged - with Kate Moss. Does *British Vogue* rate any better? Pandora's inquiry revealed that Naomi (left) has appeared on four *Brit Vogue* covers, most recently

in January. On the other hand, Naomi has been one of the world's top models for almost a decade and four covers doesn't exactly mean we're colour blind over here.

### Euro currency for US crime

CRIIME pays and - it's now official - America reaps the benefits. US economists are worried that the euro may prove too popular with international criminals, and, as a result, cost the US Treasury billions, according to yesterday's *New York Times*.

Apparently, the US benefits to the tune of \$2860 every year from having \$4000 in circulation. Since America is now in many respects a "cash-less" society, it's obvious that mountains of the "greenbacks" find a home within the vast underground global criminal economy. The largest US note in circulation is \$100, while there are plans to issue euro notes equivalent to \$200 and \$500. According to one nervous Princeton economist, "You'll be able to smuggle a million in or out of the country in a purse instead of a suitcase." Faced with this new competition, Pandora predicts the Yanks will soon issue new crime-friendly large bills. Richard "I am not a crook" Nixon might make a fitting presidential face for a \$500 note.

### Wasted words of wisdom

SADLY, Pandora must conclude that a silver tongue is not a requirement for debating in the House of Commons.

Matthew Taylor, Lib Dem MP for Truro, recently made this clear when he asked the Secretary of State for the Environment, "for what reason the UK delegation to the 10th session of the negotiations for a UNECE Commission for Europe Convention concerning public participation in environmental decision-making did not support a proposal to provide for public participation in transfrontier movements of radioactive waste?"

After days of effort, Pandora has managed to decipher this question. Taylor is asking why Britain refused to back a UN proposal that governments should tell their citizens before bringing dangerous radioactive waste into the country. In view of last week's shipment of Georgian nuclear waste to Donnez, revealed to the British people by the *New York Times*, Pandora thinks this was a reasonable question, unfortunately expressed.

Pandora

### DAILY POEM

#### A journal of Three Questions

By Charles Wright

Bees at the six-pointed junkweed blooms,  
Ants on the move on the undersides

And down the stems  
Into a vast, pitch-black darkness  
Around the roots of the wheat grass and the violets.

Who was it first recognised the beginning of the end?  
How many miles exist between the light and the dark  
When light and dark are obscured?

Who can dis-

guish them?

Bees and ants are mean creatures, their powers pervasive.

This poem comes from *Zone Journals*, the latest collection by Charles Wright, who has won this year's Pulitzer Prize for poetry. *Zone Journals* is published (price £7.95) by Stride Publications at 11 Selvan Road, Exeter EX4 6EW.

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## Solving the secret of children's pain

By Jeremy Laurence  
Health Editor

CHILDREN are suffering needlessly because doctors do not know how to treat their pain, specialists said yesterday.

Little is known about the biology of children's nervous systems or how they respond to drugs. As a result children are denied powerful pain killers because of fears that they may do more harm than good.

Launching the world's first children's pain research centre at the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, Professor Al Aynsley-Green, director of clinical research and development, said until 10 years ago young babies and infants were thought to be unable to perceive pain. Now treatment of pain was recognised to speed recovery from disease but anecdotal reports suggested children were still not humanely treated everywhere.

"There was no lack of compassion but there was a pre-occupation with survival at any cost and there was concern that powerful analgesics might be damaging," he said.

The centre, backed with £500,000 from the charity, Children Nationwide,



In control: Karen Wood, 15, administering her own pain relief  
Photograph: Rui Xavier

will develop new treatments and assess the efficiency of existing ones. It is seeking a total of £1m to fund the first six years of research.

Maria Fitzgerald, professor of neurodevelopmental biology at University College London, said three assump-

tions underlay doctors' approach to childhood pain: that infants did not feel it as adults did; that they might become addicted to pain-relieving drugs such as morphine. All three were wrong but attitudes were slow to change. "It is

not due to inhumanity and lack of care but because there is a lack of information," she said.

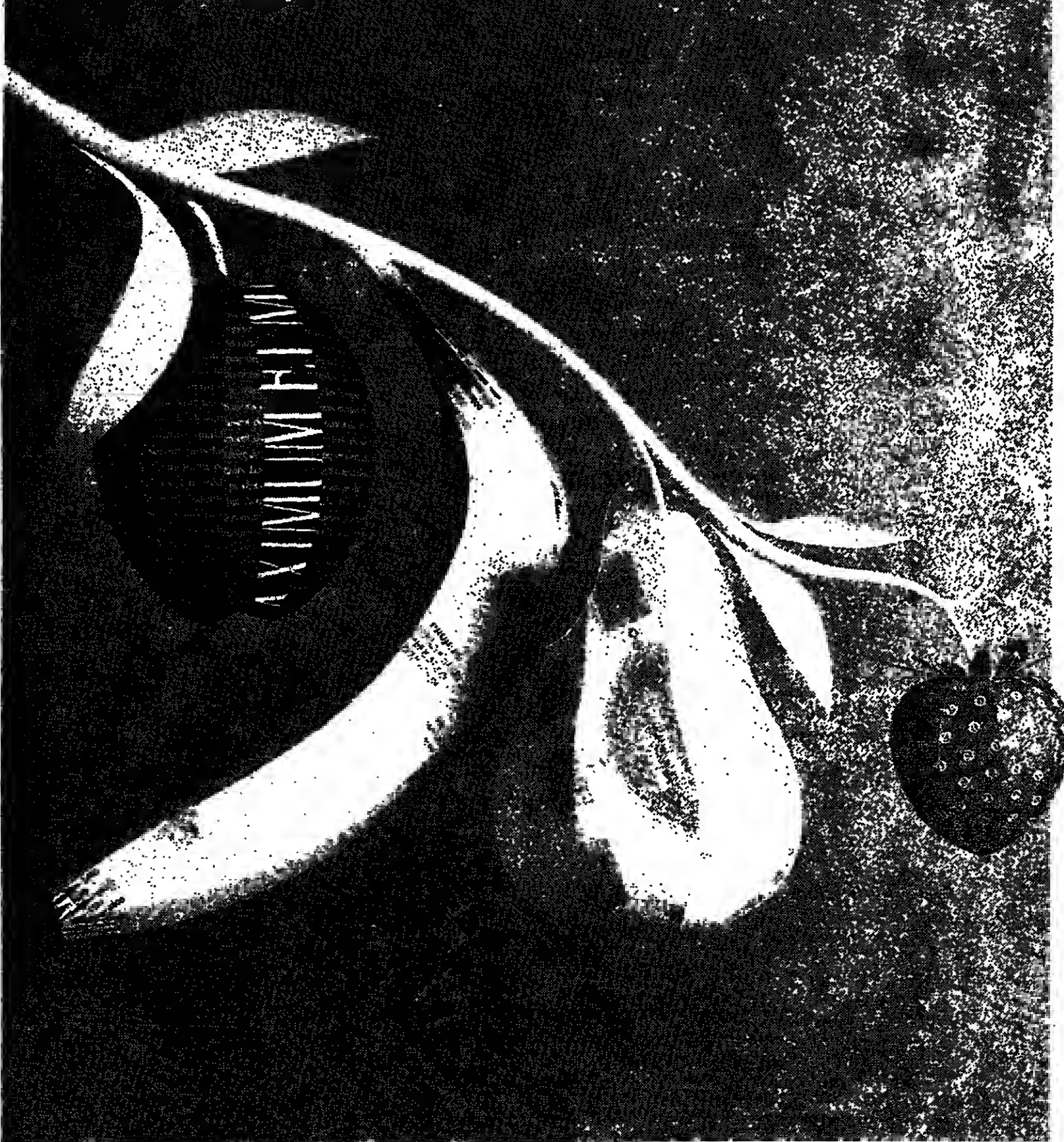
Dr Ann Goldman, consultant in palliative care, said two thirds of children with cancer would need powerful painkillers at some point during the

course of their treatment but it was wrong to regard them as small adults. Studies showed that children under seven metabolised morphine more quickly than children over nine, suggesting that younger children might need bigger or more frequent doses than older ones.

Children as young as five were being given control of their own pain relief, by pressing a button which delivered another shot of the drug through a drip into their arm. The machine is set so that they cannot overdose but the psychological effect of being in control added to the pharmacological effect of the drugs.

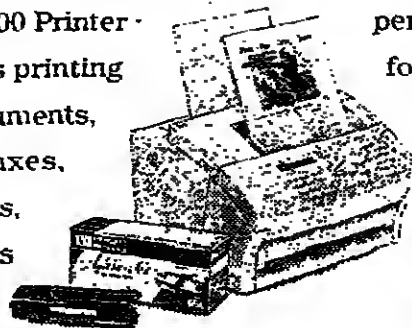
Dr Kevin Murray, consultant rheumatologist said children were routinely excluded from drug trials so fewer drugs were available for them than for adults. In the US, new regulations now required researchers to explain if they were excluding children. "We cannot wait 10 or 12 years to see if the drugs work in adults before we can see if they work in children," Dr Murray said.

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# Animal feed firms deny causing BSE

By Charles Arthur  
Science and Technology Editor

ANIMAL feed manufacturers yesterday denied responsibility for the BSE epidemic, and claimed that their reluctance to tell farmers that they were turning cattle into cannibals was necessary for commercial success.

In evidence to the BSE inquiry in London, representatives of animal feed mills asserted that the idea that infected cattle feed caused bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) is still formally untested.

"It's a hypothesis, and we would certainly like to know what the real reason is," said Peter Sanderson, quality assurance manager for the feed makers BOCOM Foods.

Jim Reed, director-general of the UK Agricultural Supply Trade Association, which includes about 100 feed makers, said: "We would like to be certain, rather than working - like everybody else - on theories."

Under questioning, the feed company representatives painted a picture in which the post-war dairy farming community engaged in a "dash for growth", trying to produce more milk from faster-maturing cattle: between 1973 and 1983, average cow milk yields increased by 25 per cent.

This followed the use of high-protein supplements including "meat and bone meal" (MBM) made by rendering companies from leftover parts, such as the head and bones, taken from abattoirs. The parts were heated under pressure to remove moisture and fat, leaving solids - MBM - which could have come from cattle or sheep.

MBM has been used in animal feed for 90 years, feed companies said, without any ill-effects - until the advent of BSE. Helen Raine, of J Bibby Agriculture, said that though tests for pathogens were carried out on supply samples, "it's always the case that you don't test for things

that you're not aware of." There is still no simple test for BSE infectivity in any material.

The idea that BSE was spread by infected animal feed emerged from government scientists' early studies of the epidemic - and is strengthened by the fact that regulations introduced in 1989, banning the use of highly infective tissues such as brain and spinal cord to make cattle feed, has virtually ended the epidemic.

The National Farmers' Union challenged the feed manufacturers, in written evidence from Ben Gill, the NFU president. He said that members had wanted more information about what they were feeding their cattle.

"The NFU does not accept the arguments of difficulty in providing precise lists of ingredients," said Mr Gill. "Farmers did not accept that a simple declaration of the material ingredients would expose the [feed manufacturer] to risk of

their formulations being 'stolen' by their competitors."

But Mr Reed said it was not feasible to provide labels detailing exact proportions of MBM and other ingredients, because their computer technology only improved that far in the early 1990s - just in time for a 1992 EU directive making labelling obligatory.

Feed companies could not have distinguished whether MBM came originally from cows or sheep, since both passed through the rendering process and were delivered as "MBM". Companies also kept trying different compositions of feed to try to create food that would make cows gain weight faster.

Mr Reed added: "Small feed companies were always in a competitive market. The NFU might dismiss that as irrelevant in the long term. But to a company that thought one ingredient or another might give it a commercial edge, it was very important at the time."



Swan song: Dancer Anna Pavlova with Jack in 1927, from *The Face in the Corner*, a new book by Robin Gibson of pictures of celebrities and their pets, selected from the National Portrait Gallery in London. Photograph: Lafayette

## £40m boost to revive rural bus services

By Randeep Ramesh  
Transport Correspondent

ISOLATED rural communities in England are to get a £40m cash boost designed to bring back buses to village life, ministers will announce today.

The Government says it is keen to promote public transport in rural areas. Ministers point out that three-quarters of countryside parishes have no daily bus service while 20 per cent of rural households do not have a car.

Getting the largest chunk of the money available are nine of the "most rural" counties in England, (defined as those with the most countryside villages with fewer than 3,000 inhabitants). Those authorities which will double their bus subsidies include Suffolk, North Yorkshire and Kent.

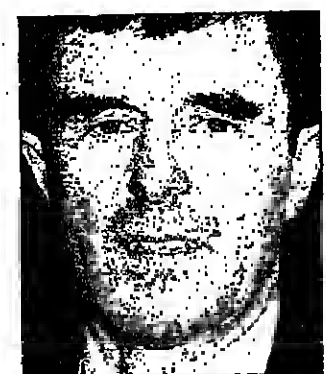
The money will make a substantial difference. In Norfolk, where nearly 300,000 people live in small country villages, bus services are allocated about £1.25m a year. This will be closer to £3m after the handout.

Somerset will see a 200 per cent increase in funding for bus services. Cornwall, the poorest region in the country, has 224,000 rural residents, who will see the benefits of an extra £1m in subsidy.

Gavin Strang, the transport minister, will point out that the Government is trying to reverse the decline in bus patronage. He will tell trade unionists at a conference today that the number of "parishes without any bus services

has gone up from 14 to 22 per cent since 1991". In his speech, Mr Strang is to highlight how poverty can be alleviated by improved transport links.

Bus trips have been cut as local authorities' budgets have been squeezed by successive governments. Bus companies yesterday said they were "very pleased" to hear extra money would be made available.



Gavin Strang: Trying to reverse decline in bus usage

In Lincolnshire, ministers will more than double the bus budget. "At present we get about £800,000 a year," said Paul Hill, managing director of Lincolnshire RoadCar - the county's largest bus company. "With an extra £1m pounds we will be looking at a much improved service."

Mr Hill said that many communities were cut off from large shopping developments in the region. "Especially on a Sunday, when there is little or no money for buses," he added.

## Single-gene clue to the cause of cancer

By Jeremy Lawrence  
Health Editor

A SINGLE gene may have a major role in protecting people exposed to carcinogens from developing cancer, scientists said yesterday. Researchers in three centres in Scotland who studied the gene said it could explain why some people who smoke develop cancer while others do not.

Roland Wolf, of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund's molecular pharmacology unit at Ninewells hospital, Dundee, said: "It has long been known that our bodies contain factors which determine our sensitivity to cancer-causing chemicals. Now we have shown for the first time that a single gene could be profoundly important in protecting us against cancer. That is good news, because it is easier to manipulate one gene than many."

The researchers did experiments on mice in which a gene known to be active in the detoxification of cancer-causing chemicals was deleted. When chemicals derived from tobacco smoke were applied to their

skin, the mice with the deleted gene developed tumours. "You take out the gene and you find they have lost their protection against the chemical," said Prof Wolf. The deleted gene makes an enzyme called glutathione S-transferase. A similar gene is found in humans which is important in the lungs and bladder, two tissues in which smoking is known to play an important cancer-inducing role.

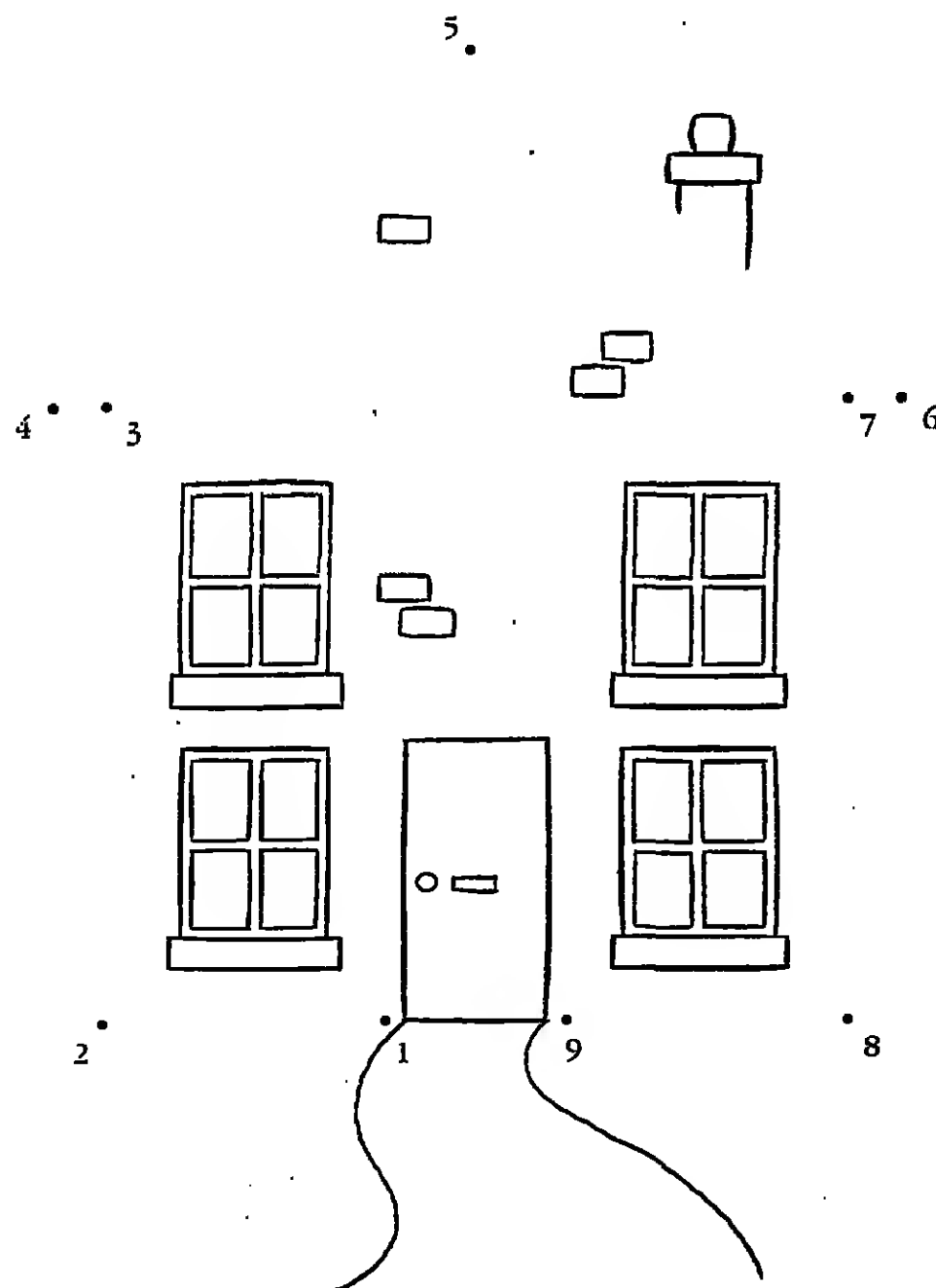
The gene occurs in several forms, with different capacities for detoxifying carcinogens. The researchers, whose findings are published in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, believe its influence on the risk of developing cancer would depend on which form of the gene was present in the body. Prof Wolf said manipulating the amount of the protective enzymes in the cells could offer a defence against cancer.

Ken Brown, of the Cancer Research Campaign, said the finding raised the possibility in the future of scientists using genetic engineering to prevent certain cancers.

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Councils are refusing to bail out treatment groups overwhelmed by an explosion in addiction. Ian Burrell reports on a growing crisis that is leaving users to face jail

## Drug centres swamped by young addicts

By Ian Burrell  
Home Affairs Editor

MANY of Britain's resource-starved drug treatment centres fear they will be unable to cope with large numbers of new referrals by the courts.

Drugs organisations said yesterday that many new centres which opened at the start of the decade amid government concern at the explosion in drug use among young people were now in dire straits.

Many are swamped with referrals and have waiting lists of up to a year. Others have been hit by funding problems and have had to hike up their charges to levels which local authorities refuse to pay.

Ron Alexander, a spokesman for Turning Point, said that treatment centres which had thrived in the early Nineties were now suffering from a distinct lack of public sympathy. Diana, Princess of Wales, who was the charity's patron, came to refer to it as one of her "uncuddly causes".

A survey of treatment centres by the Standing Conference on Drug Abuse (Scoda) has found that waiting lists of up to four months are common, and one centre cannot take new referrals for nearly two years.

Roger Howard, Scoda's chief executive, said: "A drug user that is an addict will be committing something in the order of five crimes a week. So we have a situation where for many months people are committing crimes and at the same time not getting their health problems addressed."

Research released yesterday by the Maudsley Hospital in Camberwell, south London, found that a study group of 1,100 long-term drug users committed £34m worth of crime in the three months prior to receiving treatment.

The Government has put aside £40m to pay for the introduction of the new Drug Treatment and Testing Order, which is designed to

help the courts direct people away from custody into treatment.

But the drugs organisations said that with some 20 per cent of criminals testing positive for heroin or cocaine, this figure would be nowhere near enough for a system which was already unable to cope with demand. Most under pressure are the residential care homes.

Lorne House, a multi-substance treatment centre which specialises in young addicts, is under threat of imminent closure following a the removal of a £74,000 local authority grant.

The loss of funding has meant that the centre has had to increase its weekly charges from £290 to £500. Jo Searle, the centre's project manager, said young offenders who had been accepted by Lorne House on remand, were instead being sent to jail by the courts because their local authorities could not afford the new treatment fees.

"Each day our situation gets more and more critical as fewer local authorities can afford to pay the prices," she said.

She called on the Government to give Keith Hellawell, the national anti-drugs co-ordinator, control of a national budget for funding treatment centres, which are currently dependent on over-stretched local authorities.

Motorists will be asked to participate in a second round of roadside drugs testing which began yesterday in a week-long trial by Scotland's largest police force. Drivers will be stopped at random and asked to voluntarily give a sample of saliva on a cottonbud swab by Strathclyde police officers.

The sample will then be inserted into a disposable cartridge where a chemical reaction takes place. An electronic evaluation instrument will read the reaction and display the results within five minutes.

The device will detect cannabis, cocaine, amphetamines, benzodiazepines and opiates.



Dean, a drug user, sitting and listening during a peer evaluation meeting at the Lorne House substance abuse centre. Meetings are held weekly. Photograph: Adrian Dennis

## Children hooked on narcotics education

By Louise Jury

IN a west London primary-school classroom, 11-year-old Natasha is staking her claim to be Jack Straw's official spokeswoman.

With the support of friends, she is defending the need for a drugs policy for kids like the one at her school, Avondale Park Primary.

"When you're older it might be too late," Natasha said. "People go around to children of our age [with drugs], because not many children are taught what we are. I actually think we're lucky to be getting this education."

Although the head teacher,

Patricia Clark, says they are only doing what many good schools are doing, Avondale Park has a drugs education policy highly recommended by the experts. The principle is that drugs cannot be seen in isolation from a programme of general health and social education.

The emphasis is on developing the child's confidence and presenting them with arguments to resist peer pressure and make a choice for themselves. Just say no was the drugs motto of the past.

This school's policy is called Saying No Isn't Always Easy. It is a concept that Natasha, with her friends Ebru, Edris, Lee and Rupert have

grasped. The finer points of heroin or cocaine addiction are a lesson for the future. The conversation is largely general: names are mentioned of other children who have been offered drugs outside school, though the details are sometimes vague. "Weed, I think," says Rupert, of the temptation once offered him.

They talk about how you might lose your temper if you cannot get your drugs or how people use amphetamines to keep going. And they can repeat the messages from anti-drug education: "It's not just yourself you're hurting, but everyone around you," says one.

With the help of Ed Murphy, who formerly worked in New York and has 20 years' experience in the field, drugs, from prescription medicals to illegal substances, are discussed for their benefits - morphine in surgery, for instance - their misuse and their abuse.

"Some are dangerous and some are good for you," Rupert says. "Every drug is dangerous unless you use it right."

Natasha says Ed does not push them into saying no, but they believe no is the right decision. Lee says: "Because I'm going to be involved in sport when I'm older. I decided I'm not going to smoke, and

I'm only going to drink on special occasions." The children are clearly aware of other influences than simply their schoolfriends. "It's the background you come from," Natasha says. "It is easier if you have supportive parents. We always need good support. We're only children."

But Ms Clark says they are children in a world where television, video and the Internet have made them more aware of the perils of modern life than any previous generation. For any critics of drugs education in primary schools, Ebru has the final and decisive word: "We've learned to say no," she says.

## From heroin to ecstasy: 100 years of abuse in Britain

Jason Bennetto finds music and economics have a central role in the drug culture

DRUG-TAKING has come a long way since middle-class ladies held cannabis-smoking parties in 1920s London, and small groups of literary types relaxed in opium dens. People in Britain today take a greater variety and quantity of drugs at a younger age than ever before. Researchers estimate there are 4 million consumers of illicit drugs. About 130,000 are considered "problem users". Teenagers can buy heroin, LSD and ecstasy for pocket-money prices throughout the country.

Drugs became a national phenomenon in the early 1970s, accelerated rapidly in the 1980s, then exploded in the past decade. Surveys of schoolchildren suggest drug use has increased eightfold since 1989.

The reasons for the expansion in the use and variety of drugs available are complex but two factors appeared to have played a key role in most of the changes this century - developments in youth culture, particularly music-based, and the economy. At the turn of the century Britain was a drug-free zone. For the first 20 years the main exceptions were Chinese-run opium dens where men and women could smoke it without fear of prosecution.

The clubs, most of which were based in London, attracted literary figures such as Lewis Carroll as well as some women who became addicted and ended up as prostitutes. One of the five main evils of the era was considered to be women in opium dens. Another fashionable, and legal, activity was cannabis-smoking parties, occasionally held by middle-class



Trend-setter: The Chinese-run opium dens of the early part of the century first made drug-taking fashionable when they attracted literary figures such as Lewis Carroll. Photograph: Hutton Getty

seriousness, A, B and C, for court sentencing remains the most important piece of legislation.

The 1980s recession heralded the first "heroin epidemic", particularly in estates in cities such as Liverpool, Manchester and Glasgow. Fears of an accompanying HIV infection epidemic brought a new approach by the Government aimed more at damage limitation rather than "Just Say No" sloganeering, with greater use of the heroin substitute, methadone. Glue sniffing also hit the headlines at the beginning of the 1980s. Warnings of a US-style crack cocaine epidemic failed to materialise.

The rave scene and all-night club culture hit Britain in 1987/8 and found the perfect partner in ecstasy, which could keep you dancing and high for hours. It also boosted consumption of amphetamines. The ecstasy club scene continued into the mid-Nineties but has dropped off in the past few years as raves and poor-quality "E" tablets have lost their appeal.

As the price of drugs plummeted, so their use rocketed. The country is seeing a second heroin epidemic, in which the drug is pouring in from Asia for as little as £3 a hit. Cocaine is back in fashion.

East European pharmaceutical factories find it more profitable to churn out ecstasy and speed rather than headache tablets. This decade has also seen teenage girls catch up with boys in drug use by the age of 15 and rural areas face the same drug problems as urban ones.

ladies. In 1920 the Dangerous Drugs Act made opiates such as heroin and cocaine only available on prescription from doctors. In 1925 cannabis, or Indian Hemp, as it was known, was outlawed following concerns in other countries about its harmful side-effects.

Little is known about drug consumption in the Thirties and Forties except that it was limited. During the Second World War troops were given amphetamines to keep them alert during military operations. The Fifties saw the moderate influence of the Teddy Boys and later, more importantly, the Mods and Rockers. With the new rebellious music and fashion came greater use of stimulants such as amphetamines, or "speed".

But it was the Sixties that marked the start of the popular drugs culture. Hippie lifestyles included cannabis and hallucinates such as LSD and amphetamines. In 1964 possession of amphetamine was made illegal and a year later so

was LSD. Towards the end of the decade barbiturates abuse kicked in and led to the establishment of the first detoxification centres. It took until 1984 before barbiturates became a prescription-only drug.

In 1965 the government-sponsored "Brain Committee" first identified heroin as a serious problem, mainly among young working-class men from London and the Home Counties, who were injecting it. Heroin was still relatively easy to get on prescription - one doctor was known to have given out 6kg of the substance in one year, although there were still only 3,000 notified addicts in 1969. The year before the Government restricted the availability of the drug to a small number of licensed doctors.

The next decade saw a gradual rise in the use of most drugs and the expansion to all major cities. The Punk movement helped boost sales of amphetamines. The 1971 Misuse of Drugs Act, which categorised substances into three classes of

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## Straw's aim to put the lads in work

By Colin Brown  
Chief Political Correspondent

JACK STRAW yesterday said the problem of dealing with under-skilled and under-educated young men is the single most serious social problem faced by Britain.

The Home Secretary confirmed more male role models at school are part of the Government's strategy for tackling the increasing problem of "ladish" behaviour among boys.

Responding to the report in *The Independent* yesterday he confirmed that he and David Blunkett, the Secretary of State for Education and Employment, are spearheading action to tackle social exclusion and truancy among boys.

"We are tackling head-on the issue of under-employment and unemployment. It is the problem. Dealing with under-skilled, under-educated young men is the single most serious social problem we face."

"Twenty years ago there was a natural transition from adolescence to adulthood for these young men because there were more jobs available to them. There aren't now."

"The whole purpose of the welfare-to-work programme is to tackle head-on the unemployment and to give them a sense of purpose and raise their self-esteem." Mr Straw said on BBC radio.

He said the Government was not being "pious" but acting from practical experience -

as reported yesterday. Mr Straw said he has been the chairman of governors of an inner London school for three years, and saw girls doing 40 per cent better than boys at school.

"It's very complicated. It's because the time when males were king of the castle has gone. There were wars where men were the lion kings, used to get killed for their country and their women gave men a different image from that. Tie that into with the decline in traditional employment opportunities for under-skilled men and the growth of drugs and you have got this situation."

Speaking of his own family, including his son who had been questioned by police over the alleged supply of cannabis at Christmas, Mr Straw said: "As I can testify, it doesn't follow that just because you have two parents at home your lads won't get into trouble."

"This is also a problem not just for dysfunctional families but also for functional families. If there isn't a male role model at home or at school, lads are more likely to get into trouble and stay in trouble."

Mr Straw said there should be more male teachers at primary school by making teaching more attractive to men.

"It's not so much the expense - it's making the teaching of younger children attractive to men; we ought to be able to do that. Men have this macho image about themselves, but it is important."

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## Branson the people's choice to become London's mayor

By David Walker  
Social Policy Editor

KEN LIVINGSTONE, Labour MP for Brent East, is London's choice for the office of mayor - if the beauty contest was restricted to politicians. But if, ac-

cording to a new survey, the field was opened to non-politicians, entrepreneur Richard Branson would be the capital's favourite.

The poll suggested that three out of four Londoners back the idea of a new mayoral office but also that only a third of Londoners are "certain" to turn out in the referendum next week, compared with the general election turnout of 70 per cent and the Scottish referendum vote of more than 60 per cent.

According to NOP, which presented a sample of 1,000 Londoners with 11 possible contenders on behalf of the *Evening Standard*, Mr Livingstone has a substantial lead

over the next most popular politician, the transport minister and Oscar-winner Glenda Jackson. Ms Jackson is, however, *persona grata* with Labour headquarters, which intends to pull out every stop in order to exclude the former leader of the Greater London Council from the competition for the official party nomination.

If the poll is right, this tactic spells trouble for Labour, with 74 per cent of the sample expressing resentment at any attempt to block the salamander-fancying MP. Only 16 per cent would approve of the ban. Some 55 per cent said they would vote for Mr Livingstone, against 47 per cent for Ms

Jackson, MP for Hampstead and Highgate. Respectable but lesser scores were registered by other London Labour MPs, including the Culture Secretary Chris Smith, at 34 per cent and Frank Dobson, Secretary of State for Health, at 30 per cent. *Independent* columnist and broadcaster Trevor Phillips - a Labour supporter - received 29 per cent.

Mr Branson, however, despite not having declared his hand, gets support of 66 per cent. Bad news, however, lurks in the poll for the Tory who has most enthusiastically promoted himself for the job - novelist and former party deputy chairman Lord (Jeffrey) Archer. Fifty-three per

cent said they would "definitely" not vote for him and a further 10 per cent said they would "probably" take the same view.

Another Tory, the former party chairman and Hong Kong governor Chris Patten won 49 per cent approval. Mr Patten, who is on the board of *Independent Newspapers* (UK), owner of *The Independent*, has however said he has no intention of standing.

The poll confirms Labour's high standing with 55 per cent saying that if they voted for a mayor 55 per cent would back Labour, 21 per cent the Tories, 8 per cent the Liberal Democrats, 12 per cent opted for an independent candidate.

### TORIES MAY TAKE OVER WEMBLEY FOR MAYORAL MEETING

THE Tory Party may hold a mass meeting of its London members at Wembley Stadium to decide who will represent it in the contest for the capital's mayor, writes David Walker.

In a style reminiscent of open-air trade-union meetings of old, 70,000 London Tories may be asked to raise their hands in the rain in order to select candidates from a shortlist drawn up by Conservative Central Office after consultation with local associations.

Sir Norman Fowler, the Tory spokesman on local government, will today announce that a mass rally at the stadium is an option - knowing that this would steal a march on Labour, who are dithering mightily over how to select their candidate. Labour headquarters wants a tightly controlled selection procedure, in order to secure the exclusion of Ken Livingstone, former leader of the Greater London Council.

An opinion poll published yesterday by the *Evening Standard* however indicates very strong support for transport minister Glenda Jackson, despite her not having declared her hand. Being an Oscar-winning actress has not harmed Ms Jackson's name recognition.

William Hague, the Tory leader, is thought to be keen to associate himself with an exercise in direct democracy, though the Conservative Party board of management, headed by Lord Parkinson, is concerned to ensure that party mem-

bers are allowed to record their choices privately. One idea is for gigantic ballot boxes to be placed strategically around the stadium.

A Tory party spokeswoman said yesterday that various options were being considered but that the party was anxious to ensure its choice was plural. "We want a healthy list", she said - not just the two names that have surfaced so far, those of millionaire novelist Lord (Jeffrey) Archer and former transport minister Steven Norris.

## Worries over women for Wales

By Tony Heath

THE Labour Party's efforts to achieve gender balance among candidates for next year's Welsh Assembly elections remained unresolved yesterday after a lengthy meeting of the party's Welsh executive committee in Cardiff.

The meeting backed the principle of twinning the 40 Welsh constituencies into 20 pairs to produce equal numbers of men and women candidates. However, the committee decided to reconvene on 7 May to consider a counter-proposal under which each constituency would choose between a man and a woman. It was also recog-

nised that the twinning scheme needed further examination.

A decision will be taken at the party's annual Welsh conference in Swansea on 15 May.

Terry Thomas, the executive's chairman, denied that there had been further delay following a lengthy period of consultation. "We want to examine twinning in greater detail and look at an alternative," he said.

The meeting was reportedly exercised by the remarks of the Lord Chancellor, Lord Irvine, who told Welsh MPs last week: "In my opinion twinning is unlawful."

Mr Thomas said after last night's meeting: "The Labour Party has had legal opinion.

What ever system we adopt could be open to legal challenge."

The continuing uncertainty over the best way of achieving gender balance in Wales has implications for the Scottish party, where the process appears to have gone more smoothly.

The 40 local parties are said to be evenly split over twinning. At a meeting of Welsh Labour MPs at Westminster earlier this month there was an 11-10 vote in favour of twinning.

Ann Clwyd, MP for the Cynon Valley and one of the leaders in the "Twin to Win" campaign, said that Wales' macho political culture had to be reversed. "There are only four women MPs in Wales against 36



Ann Clwyd: Macho culture has to be reversed

men and Wales has only ever returned seven women to Westminster," she said.

John Rogers of the Welsh executive said: "Everyone should bear in mind the comment of Lord Irvine who expressed the view that twinning was unlawful."



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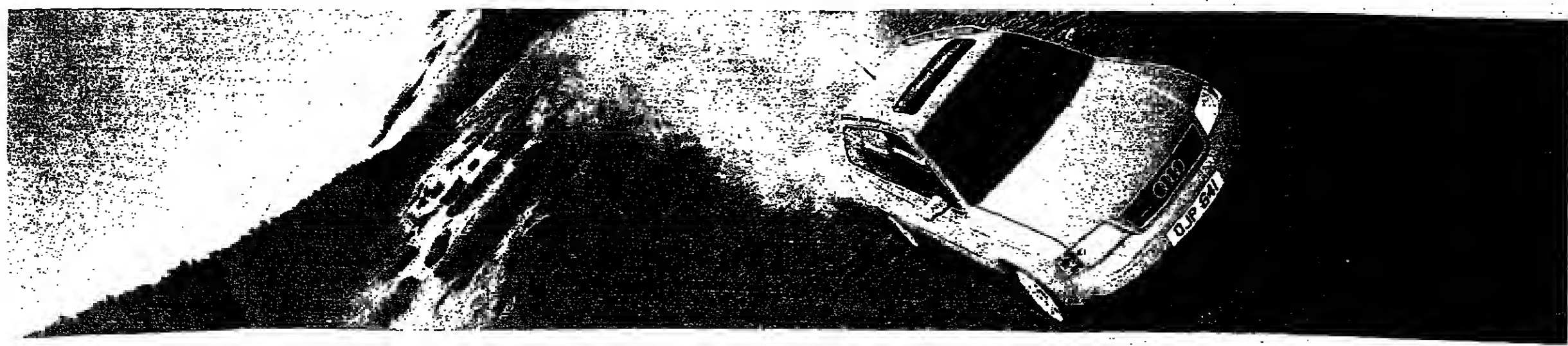
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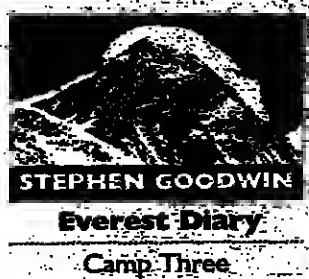
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# A hard day's night for three in a tent made for two



STEPHEN GOODWIN  
Everest Diary  
Camp Three

**I**t was the most physically taxing day of my life and just about the worst night's "sleep" I can remember. Camp 3, at 7,200m on the Lhotse Face below Everest's South Col, is probably as dramatic a place to pitch a tent as is imaginable. But it is hard to find anyone who speaks of it with affection.

Camp 3 is one of the essential staging posts in climbing Everest from the Nepalese south side.

It is, for all practical purposes, the half-way house between Advanced Base Camp (ABC) near the head of the Western Cwm and the South Col - launch pad for summit attempts. After days of gazing up to a too-distant skyline where the wind whips the snow into streams it is amazing how close the South Col now looks, uncomfortably close.

The small tents of several expeditions are tucked in on glacial shelves in the centre of the face. Hacking paths into the ice was hard work for our team of Sherpas who were here a day before us.

It seems churlish to wonder why there are only three two-person tents for eight of us or why one tent is so awkwardly positioned as to require crampons right into the porch, with not an inch of space to remove the said spikes from your boots.

Meanwhile, the floor of the Western Cwm beckons hundreds of metres below if anything is let slip. There have been deaths on the Lhotse Face and some amazing arrested slips.

So why go to Camp 3 at all until the final summit bid? It is partly for acclimatisation, to see



Ice man cometh: Pemma Sherpa, sirdar (head sherpa) of the Himalayan Kingdoms Expeditions, going through the ice fall  
Photograph: Stephen Goodwin

as the angle steepened into the Lhotse Face. The sun turns this mountain amphitheatre into a furnace. Time after time I hung back on the rope gasping for air.

But an hour or so before reaching our goal the weather changed to light snow, limiting visibility so that sometimes no one else could be seen.

At this altitude it is common to have hallucinations and at that moment conditions were just right. With the angle of the Lhotse Face obscured and the snow falling so gently, I imagined I was somewhere like the North Downs, reality only returning as the shadow above turned not to a familiar bank of trees but a cliff of snow-harsh ice.

The true picture of the camp, its location and its vast Himalayan panorama only became apparent as I wriggled out of our tiny two-person expedition tent as the sun came up. Unfortunately there had been three of us in it. I had spent the night lying head down-slope, yet surprisingly suffered next to no headache, either from altitude or a rush of blood to the head. I was also the only one able to reach the stove.

Replacing fluid by endlessly boiling water is vital at altitude. However, this meant from my cramped position I was having to reach over the stove and round the side of the tent to scoop pan fulls of snow for melting.

that you will be able to function at more than 7,000m and partly for the experience of ascending on the ropes: fixed over the steep bulges of blue ice.

Given fair weather at summit time, the idea will be to go from ABC to Camp 3, as we did, then next day, in a long push, climb to the South Col, lie in a tent for a few hours (sleep would be a sweet surprise) and then set off for the top before midnight.

It is also likely that the Camp 3 climb has given our

guides Dave Walsh and Jim Williams a good idea of the respective abilities of our Himalayan Kingdoms Expeditions team members and an idea of who might make the summit, including themselves.

Dave's deputy leader, Barry Barnicott, a past Everest, is already out of the frame. He went down the valley two weeks ago to try and shake off a flu-type bug, but after starting back into the Khumbu felt too weak to continue with the expedition. Obviously we shall

miss his experience. Some of us will also miss his company in the evening over cards or - below Base Camp - a glass or two of beer.

For myself, I found the climb to Camp 3 a desperately hard slog, but not so hard that I could not have started out again next morning.

We were on the go for about six hours, first across the crevassed snow slopes at the head of the cwm and then on to the fixed ropes - placed by Sherpas only a few days ago -



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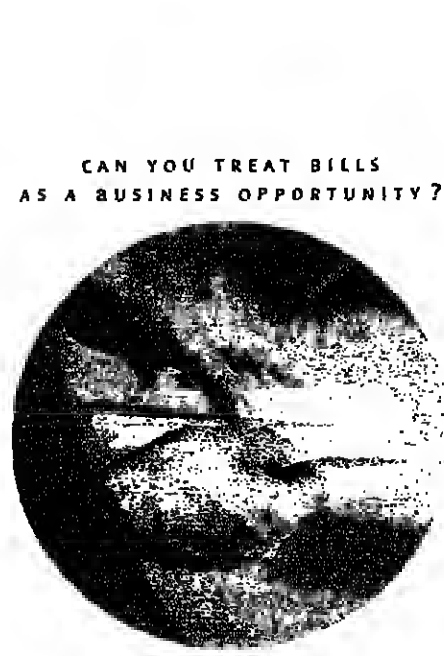
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- WHAT IS THE THING IN THE PICTURE?
- (a) A business card with nothing printed on it.
  - (b) The back of a business card.
  - (c) The back of a business card - I can use the back of my business cards to print a description of my product and pricing.



- WHAT IS THIS?
- (a) An angry customer - I'll hide till he's gone.
  - (b) An angry customer - I suppose I'd better pacify him.
  - (c) An angry customer - he's brought something to my attention, he deserves to be treated so well he'll become a loyal fan.



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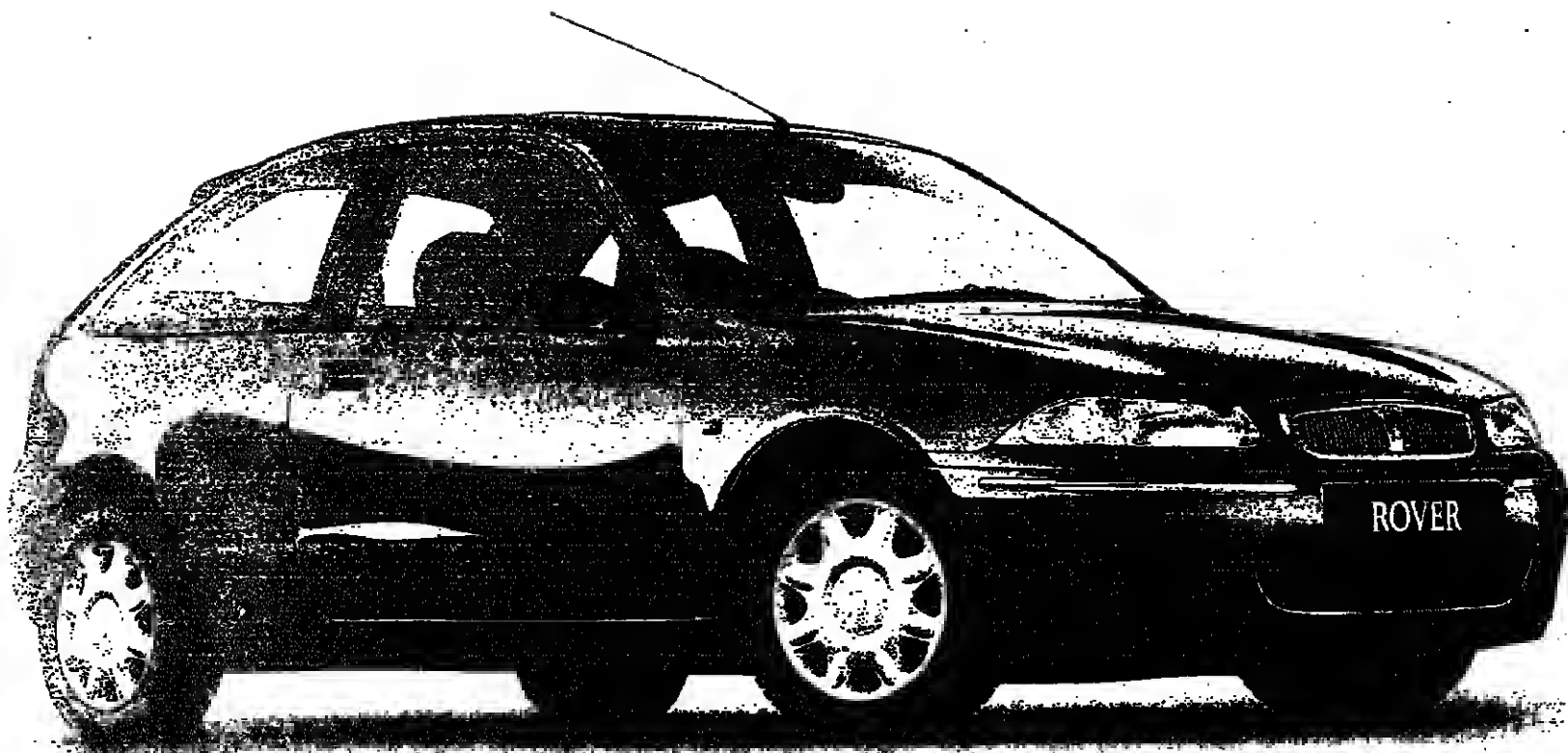
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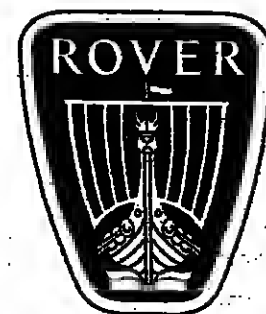
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# France hurls spanner in the euro works

**PRESSURE** intensified on Tony Blair last night to use his chairmanship of the European Union to avert a diplomatic crisis over who runs Europe's single currency, as the two main protagonists, France and the Netherlands, both dismissed talk of compromise.

Rivalry between Paris and The Hague over the post of president of the future European Central Bank is set to overshadow a historic EU summit on Saturday when the 15 government leaders meet in Brussels to give their blessing to the launch of an 11-member currency union from 1999.

Far more significant than the clash of national egos over a top job that the EU suggests, it in fact exposes the fault lines of an underlying political rift between France and Germany over how monetary union should be run. Even if the dispute is settled on Saturday or soon after, there are growing fears that it is merely a forerunner of the tensions which will inevitably emerge after the Euro kicks off.

Anxiety in Germany at what is seen as a French threat to the independence of the bank erupted into the open yesterday with reports suggesting that the Bundesbank would rethink its approval for the launch of Euro if the presidency were to fall victim to a Franco-Dutch compromise, splitting the eight-year term of office between the two rivals.

French hopes have focused on a 50-50 split under which the Dutch candidate, Wim Duisenberg, would retire after the first four years to make way for

Dispute exposes wider rift over monetary union, writes Katherine Butler in Brussels

the current French central bank president, Jean Claude Trichet, nominated in a surprise challenge by the French President, Jacques Chirac.

There was speculation yesterday that faced with the threat that the Bundesbank would withdraw its endorsement for the euro, the French were preparing to back down, withdrawing Mr Trichet on the promise that he would succeed the Dutchman perhaps after six years. A spokesperson for Mr Chirac, who appears to have hoisted his candidate for a very high petard, dismissed this, saying "France continues to support the candidacy of Mr Trichet".

A spokesperson for the Dutch Prime Minister who was out canvassing in his country's general election campaign, meanwhile, repeated that nothing less than a full eight-year term for Mr Duisenberg remains the Dutch position.

Mr Blair's failure to mediate effectively in the damaging dispute would draw strong criticism, even though the indications are that Britain's marginal role in Euro has also consigned the Prime Minister to the sidelines. Mr Blair, who is denied a vote in the selection of a Central Bank chief because of Britain's opt-out, spoke to his Dutch counterpart last Friday but no agreement materialised and there have been no further attempts to broker a deal according to both Mr Kok's office and the Elysée.

The new Central Bank president will head a team of 500 which from next January will co-ordinate monetary policy for the euro-zone setting interest rates and steering the new currency.

For the Germans the extent to which the Bank and its top officers are, and are seen to be, entirely independent of political interference, is crucial to the stability and credibility of the euro. The Maastricht Treaty stipulates an eight-year non-renewable term for the president specifically to protect the independence of the office.

The appointment of a figure such as Wim Duisenberg, closely linked to the tight money policies advocated by the Bundesbank and the German government, would fulfil German demands perfectly.

He represents the *quid pro quo* for Germany's reluctant agreement to admit countries whose high debt and structural economic problems could destabilise the project.

French political leaders, on the other hand, have a vision of an Euro where a tight monetary policy is offset by the political concern for jobs and growth.

For the Dutch the issue is one of national pride. Pipped at the post in a 1994 EU contest, for the presidency of the European Commission, the Dutch are furious that the same trick could be played again. This time Wim Kok's Socialist led coalition is facing elections after the Euro summit on 6 May so the room for compromise at least before that date, is slim.



Alles Cuban President Fidel Castro (left) talking to Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien yesterday at the Palace of the Revolution in Havana, where the two leaders met to sign co-operation agreements. Photograph: Gary Hershorn

## Outsider set to shake up Spain's socialists

By Elizabeth Teague in Madrid

SPAIN'S opposition Socialists are set for a much-needed shake-up following the unexpected victory of the outsider Josep Borrell in the party's first primary elections for a prime-ministerial candidate.

Mr Borrell, a charismatic Catalan of humble origins, delivered a kick up the backside to the party machine by trouncing the party's official candidate, Joaquin Almunia.

Mr Almunia was the designated successor of the former prime minister, Felipe Gonzalez, and looked like a safe pair of hands after he was hastily endorsed in the time-honoured bureaucratic fashion following Mr Gonzalez's sudden resignation last June.

Mr Almunia was regarded as keeping the throne warm should Mr Gonzalez—who had led the party since 1974, with 14 years as prime minister—decide to return as party leader.

Mr Gonzalez encouraged this sentiment by saying before the poll: "I'll vote for Joaquin and continue at the disposition of my party."

But last Friday, the rank-and-file members overruled all predictions for rejecting this vision, opting instead for Mr Borrell by 55 per cent, with 45 per cent voting for Mr Almunia. The astonishing result clearly

showed the extent to which the party apparatus had lost touch with its members.

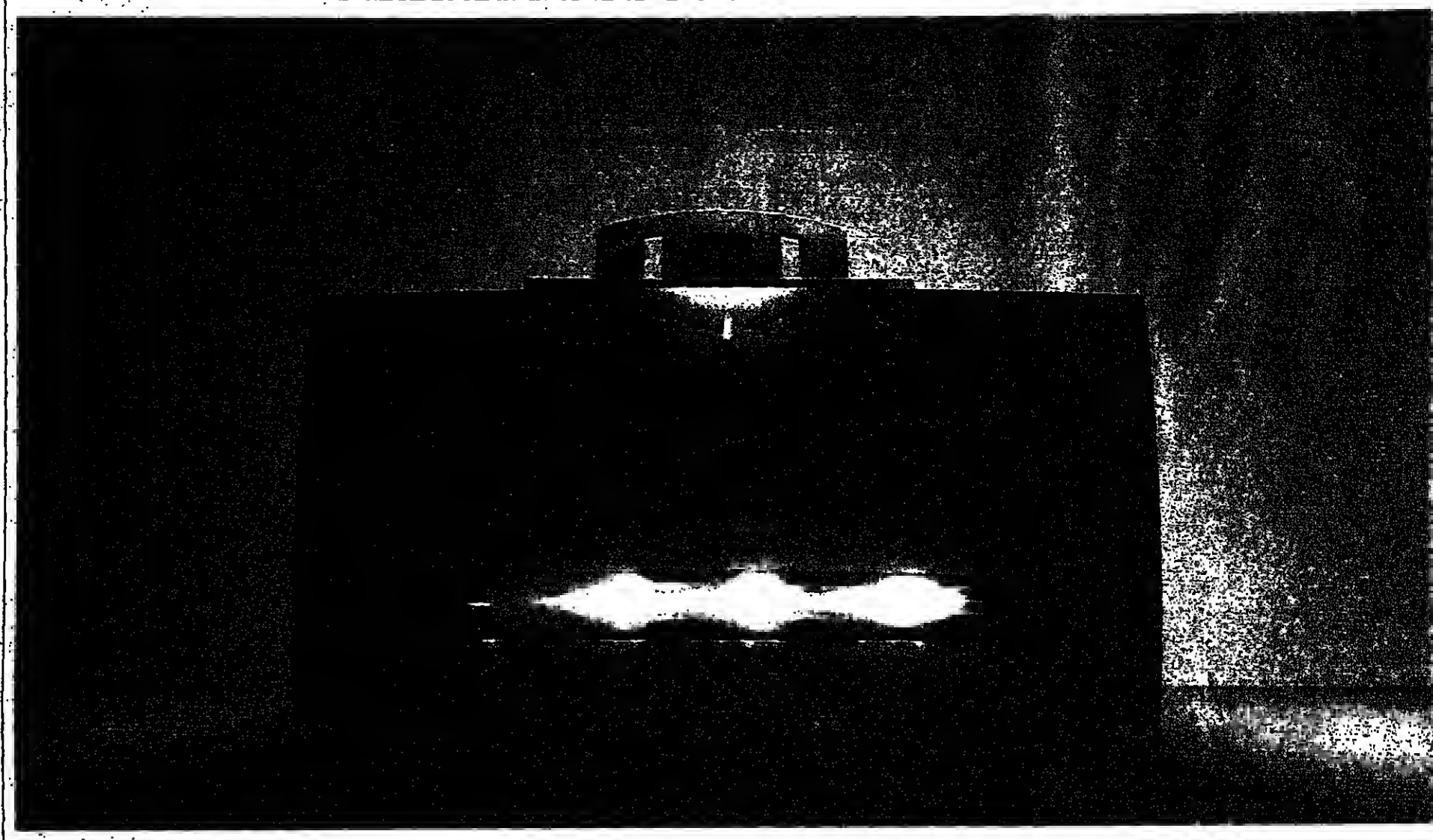
Party bosses have been urging internal reform for years, especially since they lost the elections two years ago. But members declared by their vote that those who talked of renovation actually delivered stagnation.

Overnight, the Socialists have dramatically improved their chances of victory in elections due within two years. A weekend poll predicted that were elections to be called now, Mr Borrell would be 10 points ahead of the Prime Minister, Jose Maria Aznar.

Mr Almunia, a decent but unexciting leader, offered to resign as party general secretary, though Mr Borrell, seeking to minimise internal divisions, has urged him to stay.

Political ideas were sparse throughout the contest, but Mr Borrell is expected to challenge Mr Aznar's conservative government more fiercely over social conditions and employment.

Mr Borrell has the enormous advantage of being free of any taint of involvement in undercover assassinations of suspects in the Basque separatist organisation, Eta, during Mr Gonzalez's government in the 1980s. Mr Gonzalez has been dogged by accusations of illegal state-sponsored covert operations.



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# Defeat pushes Kohl to play race card

By Imre Karacs  
in Bonn

A DAY after his party's catastrophic defeat in Saxony-Anhalt, Chancellor Helmut Kohl came under pressure yesterday to borrow anti-foreigner themes from the extreme right in the coming national election campaign.

Mr Kohl's Christian Democrats lost one-third of their support in Sunday's elections to the regional assembly, seated in Magdeburg, and avoided the utter humiliation of being beaten into third place by the ex-communist PDS by the margin of 2 per cent of the votes. The German People's Union (DVU) recorded the best ever performance of an extreme right-wing party since the Second World War, capturing 12.9 per cent of the votes.

"We didn't manage to convince the voters of the massive efforts we have made to improve living standards in the region," Mr Kohl said yesterday in his first comment.

In a stormy meeting of his party executive in Bonn yesterday, Mr Kohl was forced to acknowledge blame for the debacle, and was implored to prepare a "time-table" for his retirement. With only five months to go to September's general elections, however, his party could ill afford to sack him now, and he shows no inclination of jumping.

The only option open, his disloyal troops acknowledge, is to change course. And with the centre and left fenced off by the Social De-

mocrats' challenger, Gerhard Schröder, there is nowhere to seek new votes but on the extreme right.

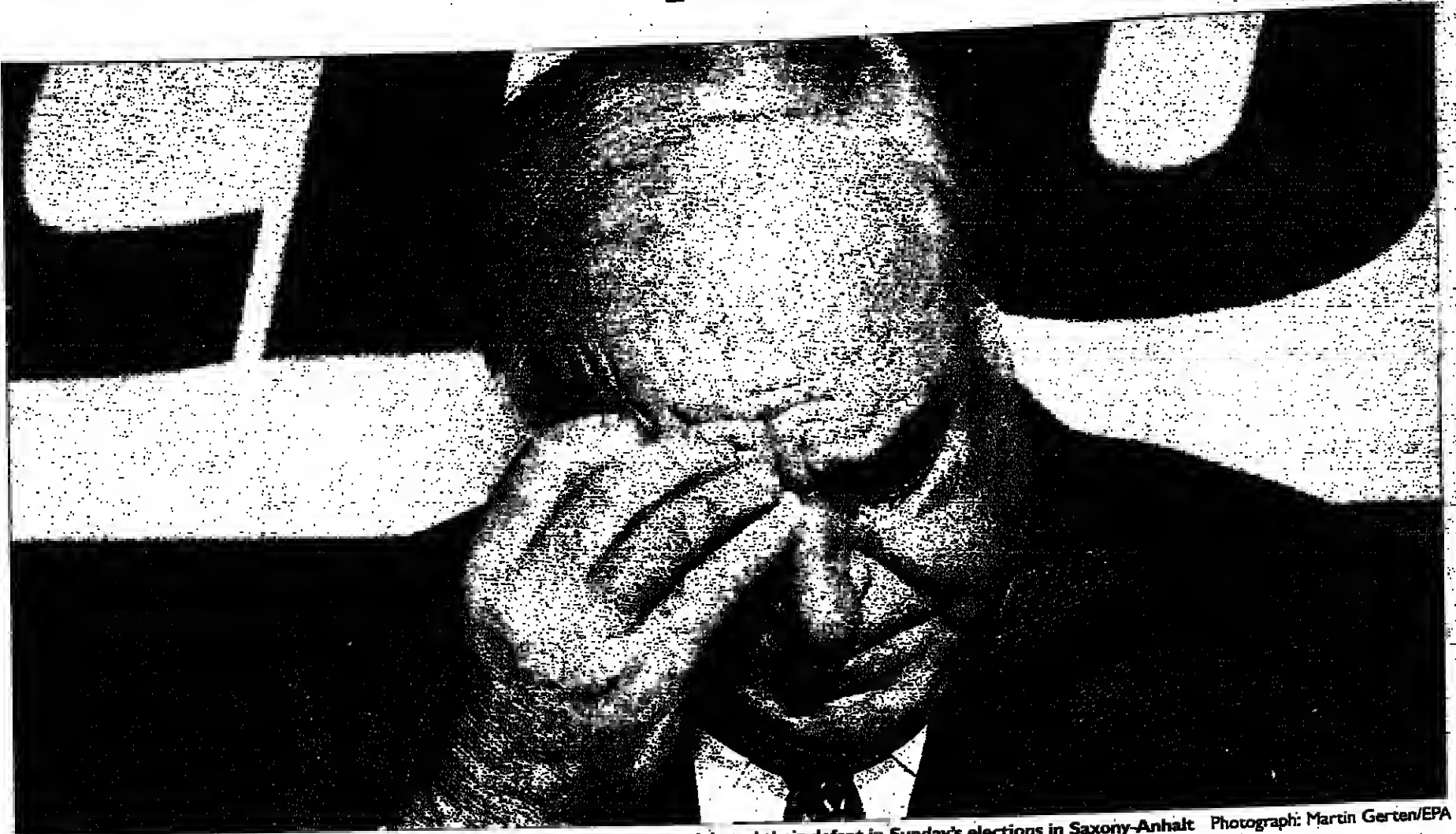
Senior east German politicians, who have seen these ultras eat into the Christian Democrat camp, were therefore advising him to make the necessary adjustment in campaign rhetoric. The loudest instructions for a right turn are coming - predictably - from the Bavarian sister party, the Christian Social Union. Their leader, Theo Waigel, left no doubt what Mr Kohl should do: "Aside from jobs, [the CDU] needs to put more stress on internal security, immigration and crime policies," Mr Waigel said. His own party, Mr Waigel pointed out, "has been doing this for some time already and we feel that course is justified by the result in Saxony-Anhalt".

One of Mr Waigel's Bavarian colleagues, Erwin Huber, went further: "We must make it clear it is our job to keep on defending national interests in Europe. This awareness of national issues must, perhaps, be put even more in the foreground."

"We have no need to learn any lessons in that area," Mr Kohl retorted yesterday. The Chancellor and his Bavarian comrades have been fighting a bitter war of words over election strategy. The rift in the governing coalition doubtless contributed to the CDU's dismal showing on Sunday, but right-wingers clearly do not intend to drop the matter.

The CDU-CSU block are eight points behind the Social Democrats in the national polls, and at this rate are heading for defeat. The temptation to play the foreigner card may be too hard to resist. Such a campaign is not alien to Chancellor Kohl. At a rally in Magdeburg last week, he devoted a chunk of his speech to law and order and spoke about foreigners in the context of crime. "Foreigners are guests in our country," he said, adding that they should respect Germany's laws.

As the main parties pondered their response to the resurgence of right-wing extremism, the leader of the country's Jewish community called on them to act now. "If the democratic parties leave things as they are what could emerge in the next two, three or five years could be very dangerous," Ignatz Bubis said.



Worrying times: Chancellor Helmut Kohl yesterday as his Christian Democrats debated their defeat in Sunday's elections in Saxony-Anhalt. Photograph: Martin Gerten/EPA

## Designer Nazism storms into poll position

By Imre Karacs

THE DVU's breakthrough in Saxony-Anhalt opens a new phase in the battle for the disaffected hearts and minds of eastern Germany. For years, neo-Nazi gangs have ruled the streets in the region's devastated towns and dehumanising estates, but, until now, not one of their members had gained entry to any of the Land parliaments. When it came to election day, their potential voters always stayed at home.

On Sunday, these seething masses were roused from their torpor and

the majority of first-time voters threw their support behind the DVU.

"A victory for democracy," exclaimed the leader of the "phantom party", Gerhard Frey, who submitted no candidates, merely the name of his creation, to the electorate. To be precise, the victory owed all to Mr Frey's strategy of storming the bastions of democracy by democratic means.

Baseball bats are out. Unlike other neo-Nazi organisations, such as the NPD, which go in for black uniforms and bombastic rallies, the DVU confines itself to Mr Frey's suburban Munich villa. His empire is the

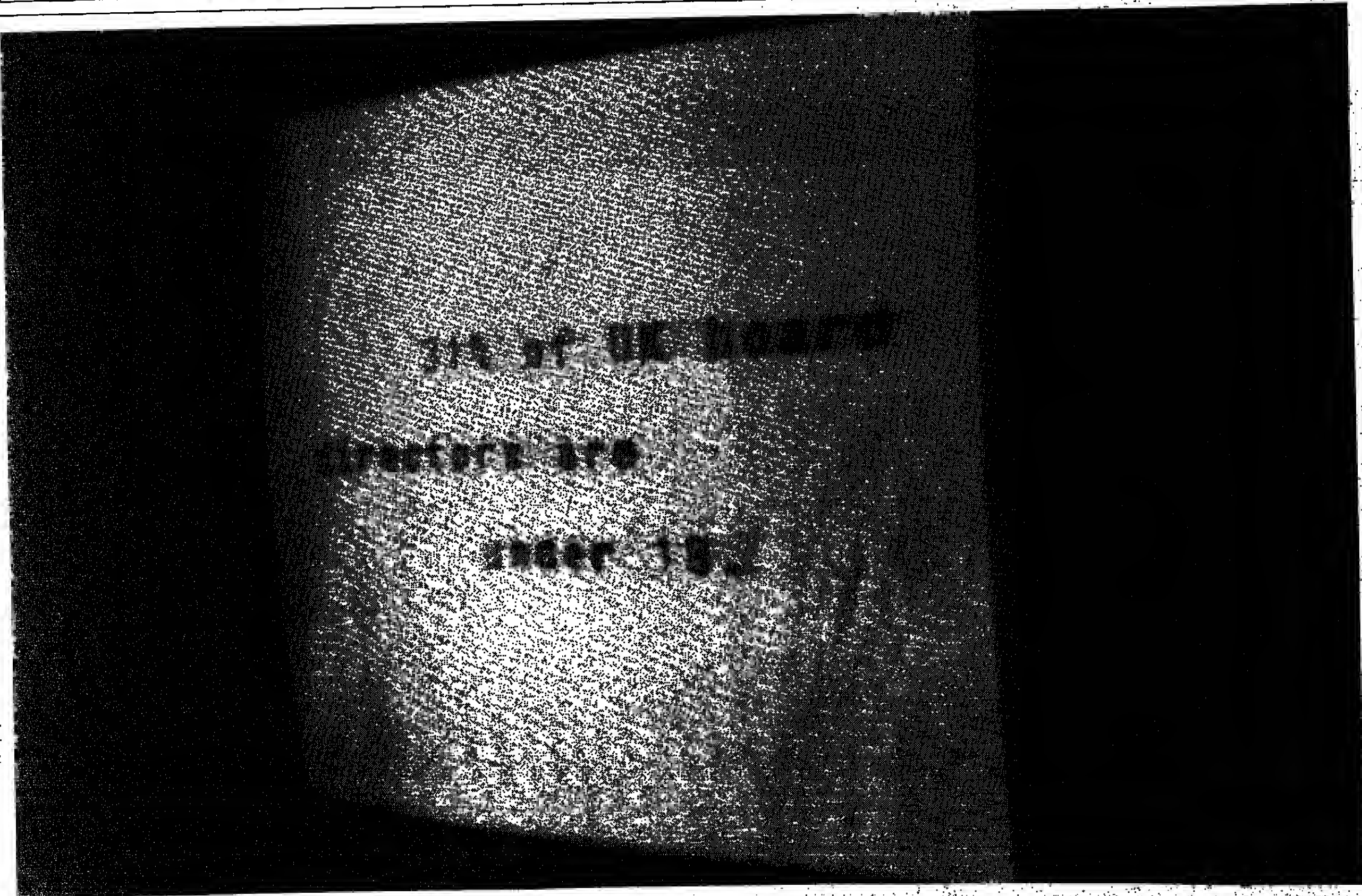
world of newspapers, war videos and the Internet. His target audience comprises not only the young desperadoes spoiling for a fight, but their mothers and fathers, too. The 65-year-old publisher is the respectable face of right-wing extremism; his creed is designer Nazism.

The newspapers he publishes in Munich do not shirk from anti-Semitic slurs, revisionism and rabid xenophobia. But the election leaflets he mailed last week kept the message simple. He was not proposing to get anybody beaten up, merely to have "criminal foreigners" thrown out.

"The DVU says the things we say," enthused a skinhead on the Olvenstedt estate in Magdeburg last week. What they say on the estates is that foreigners, who account for less than 2 per cent of the region's population, are responsible for soaring crime and 23 per cent unemployment.

The DVU has few members - 16,000 throughout Germany and less than 100 in Saxony-Anhalt - but it has notched up some successes. For a time, the party was represented in the parliament of the city-state of Bremen, and last autumn it fell 200 votes short of repeating the feat in Hamburg.

Sunday's triumph will serve as a springboard for Mr Frey, though he might find it difficult to score above the necessary 5 per cent in states where other extreme-right-wing parties can split the racist vote. But the DVU leader has almost unlimited resources. Having inherited a chain of department stores from his brother, he is believed to be worth about DM500m (£167m). Buying 16 seats in the Saxony-Anhalt parliament cost him a mere DM3m, and about a third of that will be reimbursed by the taxpayer. Democracy, like almost everything else in Germany, is subsidised.



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# Birthday boy Saddam flexes Iraq's muscles

By Patrick Cockburn  
in Baghdad

IT IS the mother of birthday cakes. It is on display in the lobby of the al-Rashid hotel in central Baghdad and the message above it reads: "Happy Birthday To Our Beloved President Leader Saddam Hussein (God Bless Him)." Coloured lights illuminate the streets of the capital and celebrations have started in every town in Iraq.

The most impressive event so far has been a mass wedding of 270 couples at the Hunting Club in the fashionable al-Mansur district, site of many embassies, not far from the old Baghdad race course. Red buses brought about 2,000 relatives to the reception and the concert afterwards, at which Iraqi singers performed on a stage decorated with illuminated hearts. Hotel rooms for the happy couples are paid for by the government.

It was 61 years ago today that Saddam Hussein was born in a village outside Tikrit, a nondescript town on the Tigris north of Baghdad. His portrait in different guises is on every street in the country and over the last week sign painters have been touching them up. Outside Karbala, the holy city in western Iraq, a painter was last week carefully repainting the gold thread in the robe of Saddam Hussein dressed as a sheik.

The birthday coincides with

another more ominous ritual. The UN Security Council met yesterday to discuss the six-monthly report from the UN Special Commission on the destruction of chemical, biological and nuclear weapons and the means to deliver them. Richard Butler, chairman of the Special Commission, has already reported that he has made no progress. Iraqi leaders have been underlining the gloomy prospects for the lifting of sanctions all week. "So long as the Security Council is controlled by America and so long as the [UN] Special Commission is formed by America," said Tariq Aziz, the deputy prime minister, "the possibility that the embargo will be lifted from Iraq and also Libya and others is weak." He denounced Mr Butler as an American agent.

Iraq has threatened unspecified measures if sanctions are renewed, but has limited military, political or diplomatic options. "They do not have much leeway," said a diplomat in Baghdad. "They seem convinced the best chance of getting sanctions lifted is by co-operating fully with the UN." He said a fresh crisis, if there is to be one, is more likely after the next six-monthly review in October.

## UN poised to renew sanctions on Baghdad

IGNORING fresh threats from Baghdad that it might once more suspend all co-operation with United Nations weapons inspectors, the Security Council was on course last night to renew for another six months the economic sanctions imposed on Iraq in the wake of its 1990 invasion of Kuwait, writes David Usborne in New York.

The council appeared to have agreed to renew the sanctions on the basis of a new report from Richard Butler, the diplomat in charge of weapons inspections in Iraq. He concluded that in the past six months there had been "virtually no progress" in determining Iraq's compliance with the UN resolutions that call on it to end all its programmes in nuclear, ballistic, chemical and biological weapons.

An olive branch may be offered in the form of some kind of formal recognition of head-

way made in the nuclear area. Russia, the most helpful of Iraq's plight among the five permanent Security Council members, last week proposed a resolution that would downgrade inspections of Iraq's nuclear capabilities to a less aggressive regime of monitoring.

A decision to let the sanctions roll on for another half-year is certain to reignite tensions between Iraq and the international community. Iraq's anger was voiced in Baghdad yesterday by the Iraqi presidential adviser, General Amer Saadi, who said future relations with the UN inspectors would be "determined in the light of the results of the Security Council debate". The general added: Diplomats said the Russian proposal for a resolution on nuclear monitoring was unlikely to get sufficient support in the council, as the United States is uneasy about giving ground to Baghdad.

Iraqi official, "they will condemn us. But if they fail to find evidence that we have weapons of mass destruction, they say they have made no progress in discovering what weapons we have. We cannot win."

The Iraqi leadership sounds more pessimistic than it did two months ago, when on 23 February it signed an agreement with Kofi Annan, the UN Secretary-General. At the time it appeared to have focused attention on the suffering caused by sanctions, weakened the US-led Gulf war alliance and enhanced the role of the UN. Now, Iraqi leaders give the impression they believe they are little nearer ending sanctions.

At the time of the agreement with Mr Annan Iraq must have known there was no chance of even partially lifting sanctions until October. It may be that the

increasingly militant rhetoric is geared to keeping international attention focused on Iraq, but not to provoking a renewed confrontation at this time.


The main political development in Iraq since the February crisis has been the increased visibility and confidence of Saddam Hussein. The evidence is less in his birthday celebrations than prolonged appearances in public. This is in sharp contrast to his disappearance from public view for long periods over the last eight years.

Ten days ago he reviewed the volunteer army for five hours in Baghdad. He even shook hands with foreign ambassadors, most of whom had never seen him (they present their credentials to his vice-president). His public appearances indicate greater confidence in his personal security and political future.

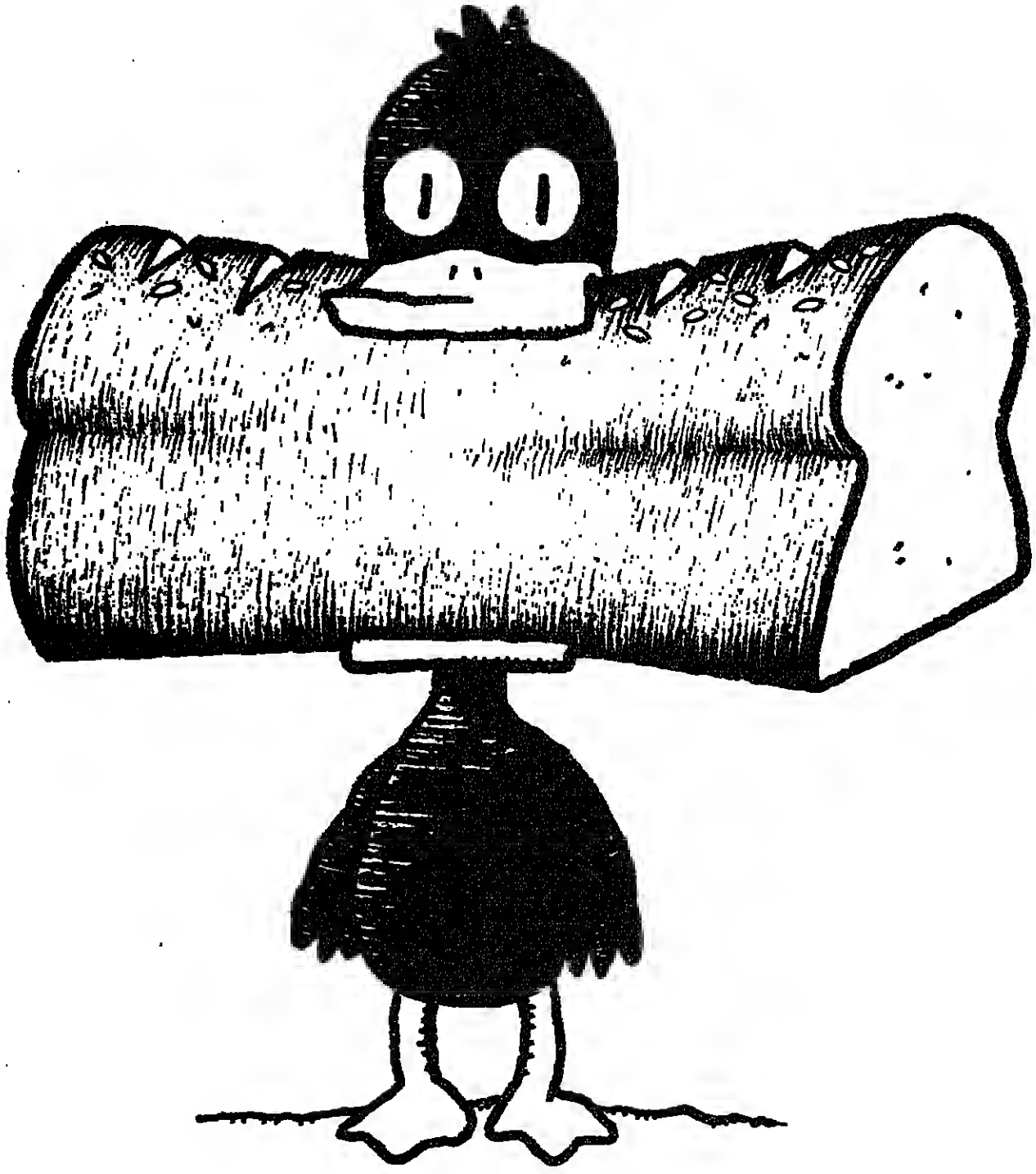


Horsemen of the Apocalypse: Saddam and his sons immortalised in a ceramic mural

Photograph: AFP



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## Wartime Korean sex slaves win compensation battle

HUMAN RIGHTS groups hailed a landmark Japanese court ruling that Tokyo should pay compensation to three South Korean women forced to provide sex to Japanese soldiers in the Second World War. The Yamaguchi District Court in southern Japan ordered the Japanese government to pay 300,000 yen (£1,420) to each of the three plaintiffs. Up to now, the Japanese government has refused to pay compensation to any of the women.

## Clashes in Kosovo

THE YUGOSLAV army clashed with Albanians and reported killing three insurgents in the southern province of Kosovo. Albanian reports said up to 12 died. The Serbian government said they were trying to smuggle weapons into Kosovo from Albania. Serb sources also reported that two policemen were wounded, one seriously, in an ambush overnight to the southwest of Pristina. About 150 people have been killed in Kosovo since late February, when Serb security forces first launched a sweep aimed at wiping out Albanian separatists.

## Chinese sow seeds of doubt

CHINA, which invented the magnetic compass, gunpowder and the printing press, is claiming another world first - the tulip. Most people believe it was European, but evidence uncovered by Chinese researchers shows it originated in China. Xinhua news agency said. Experts 20 varieties of tulips in the Qinghai-Tibetan plateau in western China and in the north-western region of Xinjiang, Xinhua said. That was proof China was the birthplace of the flower.

## Bishop murdered

A GUATEMALAN bishop who was a leading human-rights activist has been murdered, the Vatican said. Juan Gerardi Conedera, Guatemala native, who was 75, had spoken out frequently for democracy and human rights.

## Lebed heading for poll win

ALEXANDER LEBED was on course to become governor of the Krasnoyarsk region of Siberia and gain a power-base to stand for president of Russia. Unofficial results from Sunday's election in the powerful industrial region gave him 45 per cent of the vote, nearly 10 percentage points more than his nearest rival, Valery Zubov.



# Tibetan protest ends in flames

By Peter Popham  
in New Delhi

WITH burns to 90 per cent of his body, 60-year-old Thupten Ngodup is not expected to live much longer. But he is conscious in his hospital bed in Delhi where he was taken yesterday morning, and according to a friend who visited him he is sitting in bed reciting over and over again a sort of mantra. May all beings be happy. Long live the Dalai Lama. May Tibet be free.

Thupten Ngodup poured petrol over himself and set it alight yesterday morning at Jantar Mantar, the protest camp in central Delhi, where Tibetan exiles on hunger strike were entering the 49th day of their fast. At 6am, large numbers of police surrounded the camp, some in paramilitary uniforms and carrying breathing

equipment. They barged their way through 40 Tibetan sympathisers who had been keeping a vigil at the site and burst into the tent where the three remaining hunger strikers (three others had been arrested on Sunday) were asleep. As they carried them out to a waiting ambulance, Mr Ngodup sat down outside the tent and set himself on fire. Tibetans and foreign supporters tried to stifle the flames but he was in a critical condition when he reached hospital.

Tseten Norbu, president of the Tibetan Youth Congress, organisers of the fast, said: "We were expecting something to happen today, but what the police did this morning was totally barbaric."

Last week police visited the camp and warned the organisers that suicide is illegal under Indian law. With the fast entering its eighth week, they had been taking nothing but lemon-flavoured water - it was likely that some of the hunger-strikers would soon be in a serious condition. But the political factor that is assumed to have dictated the aggressiveness of the police action is that on Sunday the head of China's armed forces, General Fu Quanyou, arrived in Delhi for a seven-day visit. It was the first ever visit to India by China's supreme military commander.

The Tibetan Youth Congress had assured the Indian authorities that they would do nothing to embarrass India over the general's visit, but the mere existence of the protest was an embarrassment. The police decided to close it down, but provoked something far worse.

The relationship between India and China, the two Asian behemoths, is chronically distrustful. Although they signed an agreement on border peace seven years ago, a final agreement is as far away as ever and the border region in the Himalayas is heavily reinforced on both sides. The Indian government's abrasive new defence

minister, George Fernandes, recently infuriated Peking by criticising the alleged building by China of a heli-pad in the disputed area.

Political activity by Tibetan exiles has been tolerated by India ever since China's takeover of Tibet. But tolerance has never developed into political support. And as Tseten Norbu said yesterday, following his compatriot's self-immolation, "We found this morning that we really have no political allies."

The Tibetans have made three demands of the United Nations: to resume debate on Tibet, to appoint a special rapporteur to investigate the human rights situation, and to appoint a special envoy to promote a peaceful settlement. "There have been three statements by UN officials, two by human rights commissioner, Mary Robinson and one by Kofi Annan," Mr Tseten said, "but they did not address any of our three demands."

For 40 years, under the guidance of the Dalai Lama, the Tibetans' struggle has been resolutely pacific, but now the patience of the Tibetan youth is wearing thin. "We in the Tibetan Youth Congress have a very clear policy," Mr Tseten said. "We can pursue violent as well as non-violent means, but with due and high regard to the Dalai Lama's leadership, we have until today committed no violent acts."

With Mr Thupten's self-immolation, the unscheduled act of one individual, that may be about to change in the most horrific way. "We found we have to pay the price in flesh and blood. That is what we have to do now. Without paying the price we don't get independence," Mr Tseten said.

A new hatch of six hunger-strikers began their fast yesterday, replacing those taken away by the police. If the police try to nip the new protest in the bud, India, along with the rest of the world, should brace itself for more horrifying scenes.

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## Health scares take food off HK menus

By Stephen Vines  
in Hong Kong

COME to Hong Kong, "one of the world's great culinary centres", the tourist promotion literature says. So it is. But when visitors get here, they will find all manner of food is disappearing from the menu.

The former British colony has been hit by an unusual number of food scares which have taken many items off local menus in quiet succession. First came the scare about fresh green vegetables from across the border in China proper. Then all poultry was removed. Then shellfish, followed by all fish and now, more recently, beef.

"I hope you don't use the words 'food scare'," said Pauline Ling, spokeswoman for the health department, as she tried valiantly to convince me that the problems with various foods were well under control or common to other countries too.

There is no disguising the state of unease about the food situation. The most dramatic scare came early this year with the discovery of a fatal flu virus which spread from chickens to people. Even though it remains unclear whether the virus can be contracted from eating infected birds, poultry was soon pulled off the menu. To calm people's fears and remove the source of the problem the Hong Kong government ordered the slaughter of all poultry in the territory.

Fresh chicken and duck are now back on the menu, just as beef sales slumped by half following news last week that a deadly *E.coli* bacteria had been found in beef coming from a local abattoir.

Oh well, what about something lighter, say shellfish?

Unfortunately that's off the menu too because of fears that a toxic algae may lurk in shellfish caught in local waters, which have been suffering from the "red tide" phenomenon. The red tide is a build up of algae which suffocate fish without necessarily poisoning the fish altogether whereas in shellfish, notorious for harbouring all sorts of diseases, the toxins linger and can attack the spinal nerve system.

This is a great pity because there are few more refreshing dishes than stir-fried shellfish cooked Cantonese style. One of the most popular dishes is cockles. They were taken off the menu earlier in the year following a cholera scare.

Vegetarians cannot smirk about the woes of their fellow diners. Earlier in the year, hospitals and clinics treated a large number of patients with food poisoning caught from eating succulent-looking green vegetables. They were drenched in pesticide by Chinese farmers trying to make their vegetables grow faster.

Why is Hong Kong so prone to food scares? It is precisely why Hong Kong is famous for its food. The best Chinese food is ultra-fresh. Fish, shellfish and chickens are usually alive moments before they are plunged into the pot. Vegetables are delivered daily and do not linger in cold storage.

Mrs Ling says this creates "a unique system of selling food", with a large amount of live animals and fish in markets. It also creates problems of hygiene. The safe alternative is dead, frozen food, but no self-respecting Chinese cook will have anything to do with food from a deep freeze. It may be squeaky clean but they consider it tasteless.



# Cooking up a TV winner

Bazal Productions has become one of the most powerful forces on television. Tim Hulse discovers its secret recipe

"THERE'S nothing wrong with something that's pure entertainment," says Peter Bazalgette. "It's not a sin to have pleasure in your life. But you'd think in this country very often that it is."

Bazalgette is the high priest of lifestyle – the man responsible for a plethora of lightweight lifestyle TV programmes, such as *Changing Rooms*, *Ready Steady Cook* and *Can't Cook Won't Cook*, which now dominate the schedules, and have encouraged a British obsession with food and decor. Those words were his response to my suggestion that the bulk of his output might be collectively described as "entertaining crap". Others have said much worse things about his programmes, in particular the London *Evening Standard's* television reviewer Victor Lewis Smith, who wrote recently: "It's curious that the Bazalgette family first achieved prominence through their sterling work with drains and sewage, and fitting that Peter is keeping the family connection in place."

Whatever Bazalgette's programmes are, they're certainly popular. Last year, *Changing Rooms* was watched by more people than any other programme on BBC2. Transferred to BBC1 for its latest series which has just ended, it regularly pulled in more than 10 million viewers, giving it a prime-time audience share of more than 40 per cent. *Celebrity Ready Steady Cook*, another Bazalgette production on BBC1, attracts around six-and-a-half million viewers. In the modern, ratings-driven world of British TV, figures like these are not to be sniffed at. Nor are the spin-offs, from books and crockery to sales of programme concepts around the globe. So it's not surprising he laughs off the criticism of his detractors.

"I'm astounded that some of the critics of the programmes waste so much energy, time and hot air on what are essentially instant little entertainments. 'Smooth' is one of the words which tend to crop up when you mention the name of Bazalgette in TV circles. 'Operator' is the other one. Behind the affable, nonchalant exterior there lies a shrewd business

brain which has made him, at 44, one of the most important and influential figures in today's television industry, by recognising viewers' insatiable appetite for cheap, bland shows. Broadcast magazine called him "the acknowledged king of low-cost, high-volume production". Others go further – "There's no person who's had more impact on television in the Nineties than he has," says Nicholas Fraser, media commentator and editor of the BBC's *Storyville* documentary series. "The whole of television is full of lifestyle programmes nowadays and that is in large part due to Peter Bazalgette."

Bazalgette, known to all and sundry simply as "Baz", began as a news trainee at the BBC, but he quickly decided that news was "dull", so he got himself a job as a researcher on *That's Life*, which was much more up his street. "The truth is that Esther Rantzen was a formative influence on the programmes that we now produce," says Bazalgette, citing *That's Life's* "heady mixture" of practical consumer information and human interest stories. These are two of the three elements which are now considered essential in a Bazalgette production. The final element was to be provided by his second formative influence, but that was to come much later.

He spent the Eighties as a freelance producer, his only notable success being to turn the BBC's *Food & Drink* programme into the success it remains to this day. By the end of the decade he had his own company, Bazal Productions, a modest operation which he describes as "me and three typewriters in an office in North Kensington". However, as the auction for the ITV franchises approached, modest operations like Bazal Productions suddenly became very desirable properties for big potential bidders looking to add some production cred to their portfolios. So eight years ago, Bazal Productions was bought by Broadcast Communications, the television wing of the Guardian Media Group. By 1996, the company, now called Bazal, had a turnover of around £22m.

Baz's success is due in large



Menu master: Peter Bazalgette (below) changed the face of lifestyle programming with *Ready Steady Cook*, presented by Fern Britton (above)



Nicola Kurtz

## BAZAL'S EMPIRE

Food and Drink (BBC2); *Changing Rooms* (BBC2/BBC1); *Ready Steady Cook* (BBC2); *Celebrity Ready Steady Cook* (BBC1); *Ainsley's Meals in Minutes* (BBC2); *Can't Cook, Won't Cook* (BBC1); *Going, Going, Gone* (BBC2); *Ground Force* (BBC2); *Antonio Carluccio's Italian Feast* (BBC2); *Antonio Carluccio's Southern Italian Feast* (BBC2); *Change That* (BBC1); *Househunters* (ITV); *Pet Rescue* (Channel 4); *Great House Game* (Channel 5); *Grease Garden Game* (Channel 5); *Off Your Trolley* (BBC2); *Absolutely Animals* (Channel 4); *3,000 Mile Garden* (Channel 4); *Springs, Bows and Bellows* (BBC2); *Grass Roots* (ITV); *Lion Country* (BBC1); *Metroland* (ITV); *The Sunday Programme* (ITV)

part to his second formative influence – Channel 4 boss Michael Jackson, who approached him five years ago when he was controller of BBC2 to fill a hole in his schedule with an entertaining food programme. Bazalgette and his creative team sat down and brainstormed their way to *Ready Steady Cook*, in which two teams composed of a

celebrity chef and a member of the public compete to concoct a dish in twenty minutes using a £5 bag of shopping. The programme contained practical information and human interest, but crucially it also contained a third element – challenge and competition. The cocktail wasn't new, but Bazalgette was the first to give it a name. "About three months

into *Ready Steady Cook*, I picked it up and looked at it and thought, 'What's this? Oh, it's a leisure-based gameshow, we should do more of these,'" he says. And more of them he did: *Can't Cook, Won't Cook*, in which a chef attempts to give guidance to a couple of culinary duffers. *Going, Going, Gone*, which had an antiques theme. *Changing Rooms*, again from a

Michael Jackson suggestion, in which two couples redecorate each other's homes. And most recently *Ground Force*, in which Alan Titchmarsh and his team transform the garden of an unsuspecting homeowner.

Up until about five years ago, lifestyle programmes such as these would have been firmly moored in the backwaters of the daytime schedules, but to-

day they're prime-time entertainments. Lifestyle is booming on our screens, and Bazalgette thinks he knows why.

"At the risk of sounding pretentious when I say this, we're in a secular age, a post-religious age really," he says. "And one of the ways we seem to define ourselves is by our consumer behaviour. In our spare time we spend money on things we're interested in, whether it's cars, food or doing our house up. And those things aren't just what we spend our money on, it's who we are."

"I've never made a show as popular as *Changing Rooms* before," he muses. "I've made lots of shows that in their context are very successful, but I've never had a show getting ten million before. I think it touches an absolute chord and I want to create other shows which trawl that deeply into the way we identify ourselves."

Bazalgette is currently looking at other areas of leisure expenditure which he hasn't yet

focused on. Cars, for instance. One important factor in any new programme will be the possibilities for exploiting it in as many ways as possible. Bazalgette is keen on exploitation. *Ready Steady Cook's* format has been sold to around ten countries and optioned in a further twenty. Around a million *Ready Steady Cook* books have been sold, a live show is planned and aprons and crockery sets are already available. Bazalgette now makes more money from exploiting the brand than he does from making the programmes.

I asked him if he would actually watch any of his own programmes if it wasn't part of his job. "God, that's a very cruel question," he replied. "I'd definitely watch *Changing Rooms*, and I think I would watch the food shows that have a good strong challenge aspect to them. Like *Ready Steady Cook*, although I'm not the sort of person who would make a regular date with them..."

# A new light shines on a revolutionary legend

For 20 years, the woman who bore Steve Biko two children was silent. Now she speaks to Ann Treneman about their passion and politics



Revelations: Mamphele Ramphele's autobiography, *A Life*, sets straight 20 years of gossip and movie myth  
Photograph: David Rose

MAMPHELE RAMPHELE has had the kind of life that they make films about. She was a revolutionary and the long-time lover of the anti-apartheid leader Steve Biko. She gave birth to two of his children, the last one being born shortly after he was beaten to death in custody by South African police. For nearly 20 years she let the gossips have their say and then decided enough was enough. The result was her autobiography, *A Life*, and a history corrected. It is not so much a case of *Cry Freedom* as *Cry Foul* because Ms Ramphele believes that she tells her own story best.

Now 50, Mamphele Ramphele is a major player in the new South Africa. As vice-chancellor of the University of Cape Town, she holds what may be the most important academic post in the country, and last week she was in London raising funds for it. She says she'd like to think she has redefined the role of vice-chancellor. Somehow, I don't think that is

in dispute. Her visit to London also gave her an opportunity to tell her story, which you can hear today on BBC Radio 4's programme *The Choice*.

It is an amazing tale and, listening to it, you can't help but wonder if they made the wrong film. She admits that Richard Attenborough's film *Cry Freedom* did upset her. "I was concerned about a distortion of history by somebody who didn't really know Steve and who was trying to project Steve as a Gandhi of sorts, which he wasn't," she says.

She is a small woman with a big laugh. Her story begins at the University of Natal in the late Sixties. She arrived from her village, unsophisticated but a fast learner, and immersed herself in student politics. "We actually started believing that we were not going to die as the slaves that our parents and our grandparents had been. We were convinced we were going to see freedom in our lifetime," she says. "We worked every day, absolutely fired by the knowledge that freedom was going to come." She knew,

even from the first, that Steve Biko was the stuff of history. "He was absolutely stunning, very attractive, very jovial, larger than life." She describes a life of politics and parties and talks of her love for Biko only in superlatives: it was a relationship, she says, that degenerated into passion.

But then, for someone in love, she did something odd. She married someone else.

"Naivety is the thing when you are young. You really have great difficulties making serious assessments. So even though I

was madly in love with this man, I went and married somebody else because I had made a commitment to do so. Absolutely stupid."

Not breaking the engagement is the defining regret of her life. "Steve knew I was making the wrong decision but there was no way he could convince me. His last attempt to do so was in a letter which went right into the hands of my fiancée and which I never saw. If I had had, perhaps it would have had some impact. But the rest is history." And, then Steve

Biko got married. "Which was also a foolish decision," she says, "but there you are. A comedy of errors and a tragedy."

Her marriage did not last long. Her husband was jealous that she and Biko were still involved with politics together and, at some point, stopped trusting her. "Then obviously I was more open to a passionate relationship with Steve. In any case, it was a fire that had simply been covered with sand. Gradually the sand blew away and flames erupted."

Biko stayed married but the affair continued. Mamphele got pregnant with their first child in 1973. The baby, a daughter, died from pneumonia. "We decided not to have another child until we had sorted out this three-cornered relationship," says Mamphele. "He was married and his profile was too high for us to be seen acting irresponsibly. So we decided to be good citizens." At this she bursts out laughing. What did that mean? "Simply that we practised birth control."

But then the police cracked down and that was no longer possible. "That's why I have the police to thank for having this beautiful son. So the Lord works in mysterious ways."

At the time of Biko's death in 1977, Mamphele was in hospital with a threatened miscarriage. "I got a phone call from

one of our friends and I can still hear what she said. It really was like a searing pain that goes through you. You think, 'I won't survive this: it is impossible for me to survive the death of this man'. And yet you do, because you have no option."

At the time of his death, Steve Biko had started divorce proceedings. "So that was the ultimate blow to finishing what had been unfinished business."

In a way the book finished it as best it could. And she was also concerned that her son, Hlumelo, should understand his own history. "Very early on I made a choice that he was going to carry his father's surname. He was a product of love and he needed to understand that."

Hlumelo is now a student of politics and history at the University of Cape Town. His mother won't say what his reaction has been but she clearly wanted Hlumelo – who never met his father – to have it written down in black and white and for the world to know her truth too.

Is there any chance that one day her version will become a film? "Well, it's not that nobody has asked me but it's still very exploratory." So does she think they made the wrong movie? She just laughs and says "Well..."

Mamphele Ramphele talks to Michael Buckle today at 9pm on *The Choice* on Radio 4; it is repeated at 9.30pm.

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SAATCHI & SAATCHI



The Saatchi Gallery championed the young turks of BritArt. Now it's the turn of the young Americans. By Andrew Lambirth

# Real oil painting is real cool

MR CHARLES SAATCHI has a lot to be thanked for. Since 1985, his beautifully spacious semi-public art gallery in St John's Wood has been mounting landmark exhibitions one after the other, besides securing on permanent display a large and important Richard Wilson installation. (This darkling mirror of sump oil remains on view by popular request.) The Saatchi Gallery is indeed a welcome addition to the capital's often cash-strapped museums, not least because of its policy of showing new art from abroad. Back in September 1987, Saatchi first put on an exhibition called *New York Art Now*, a two-part show which featured artists such as Ashley Bickerton and Jeff Koons. Recently Mr Saatchi has patriotically concentrated on buying British, mounting more than half-a-dozen YBA shows at his gallery, and finally showing a selection of the best at the Royal Academy in the *Sensation* exhibition. Now it would appear that he has been waving his cheque book elsewhere too; about to open at the Boundary Road establishment is *Young Americans 2: New American Art at the Saatchi Gallery*, another two-tier show, the first half of which will run from 30 April until 12 July.

This is the sequel to the 1996 American show which featured such notables as the pungent video artist Tony Oursler and sculptor Kiki Smith. In keeping with the times, much of the work then was installation-based, though Jacqueline Humphries showed Ian Davenport-style drip paintings, Sean Landers some conceptual canvases mostly involving writing, and Richard Prince delved into Philip Guston-like landscapes with piquant lettered-on sub-texts. On that showing, you would never have guessed that a revival of painting – painting in all its variousness and glory – was under way in the Big Apple.

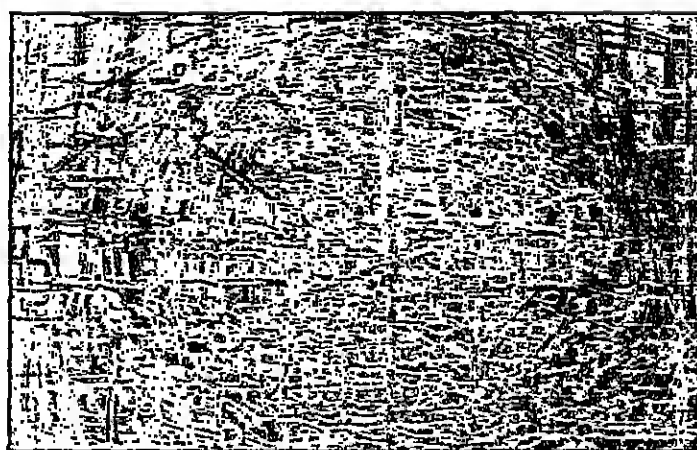
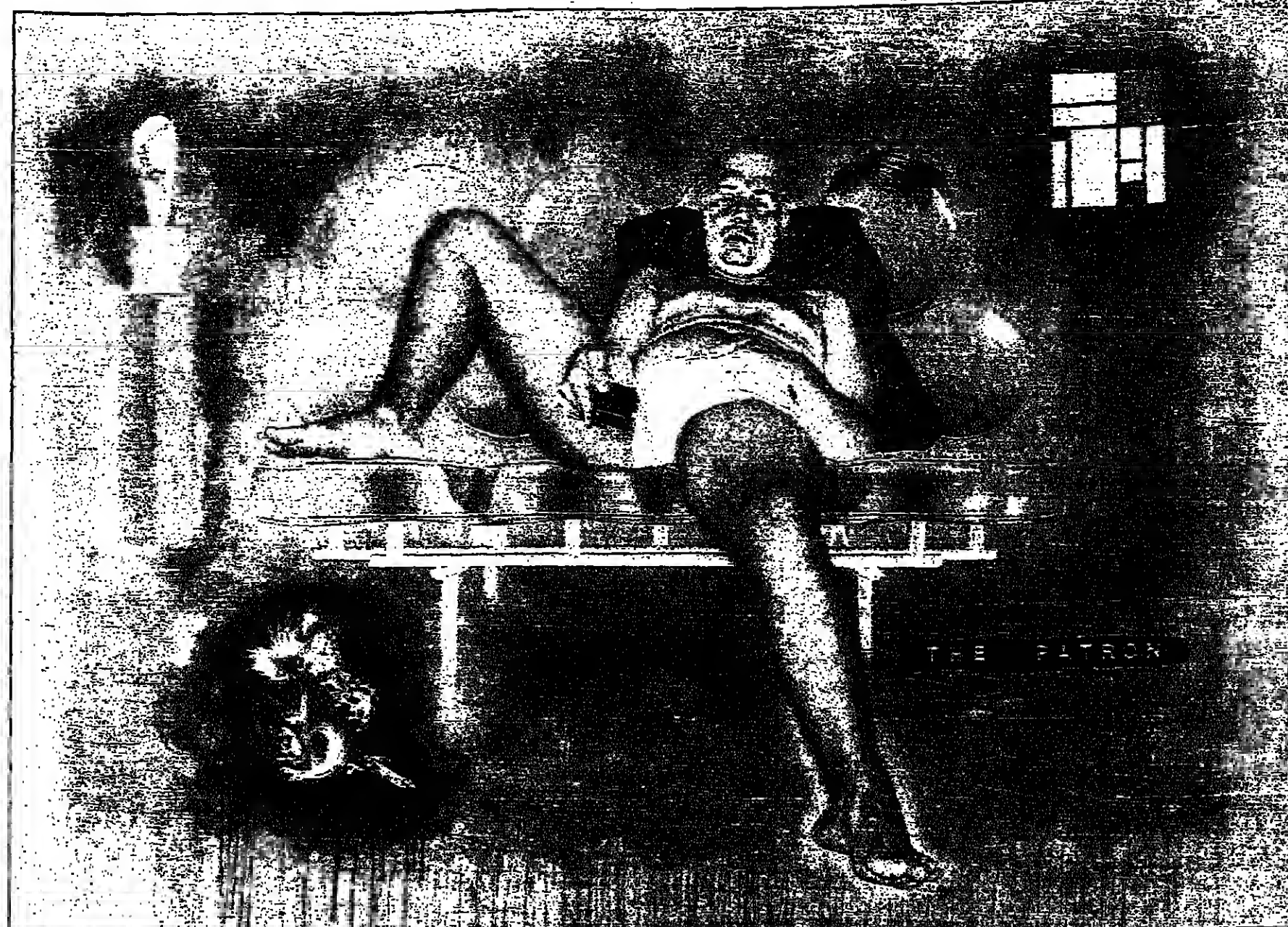
I'm not so sure that you'd immediately deduce that from Saatchi's new exhibition either. "Round up the usual suspects," I hear the sceptic cry, and yes, it is

true that Saatchi has previously shown at least a couple of these artists – to wit, the ubiquitous Ashley Bickerton and Carroll Dunham. Is Mr Saatchi pushed for new talent? Furthermore these two are half of a quartet of painters who are not exactly young, having made their reputations in the early 1980s. (The other pair are David Salle and Terry Winters.) For the rest, they're a usefully mixed bunch. Flip through the catalogue, and paintings seem to predominate: of the 150-odd illustrations, more than 90 are of paintings. But there's plenty of installation and photography and some stuff that's border-line sculpture.

Jessica Stockholder, for instance, makes constructions from ordinary found objects and then paints them, leading some critics (obviously those suffering from category-control syndrome) to dub these works "paintings".

The authors of the introductory essay in the Saatchi catalogue – Lisa Liebmann and Brooke Adams – identify a general state of "imagistic and intellectual flux" operative across the pond. (Is it really just as pluralistic over there as here?) They admit: "Nobody knows what's really been going on with art these days in the States." They do, however, pay close consideration to the work of Terry Winters (born 1949), who was recently heralded by the art critic of *The Village Voice* as the saviour of paint. Liebmann and Adams write that Winters' early 1990s paintings "packed an understated, visceral punch, which was just what this perennial Lazarus of a medium was supposedly lacking". They also laud the "advanced domestic realism" of John Currin (born 1962).

Both these painters are mentioned with exemplary gusto in a forthcoming article by the artist Cecily Rose Brown (born 1969). Entitled "The Pleasure Principle" and due to be published in the May/June issue of *Flash Art*, that repository of the fashionable and dictionary of the happening, the article anatomises the New York art world with particular reference to



The Patron by Ashley Bickerton (above), Terry Winters' *Graphic Primitive I* (left) and David Salle's *Dean Martin in 'Some Came Running'* (right)

Photographs: Saatchi Gallery & David Salle/VAGA, NY and DACS London 1998



painting, and it makes very interesting reading.

Brown is a young English painter who trained at the Slade before moving to New York in 1994. Her first solo show there last year was a sell-out, with Charles Saatchi competing with the president of New York's Museum of Modern Art to buy pictures. Brown says that living and working in New York released her art, allowing her to make the kind of rich figurative paintings for which she has become known. These, she felt, were quite at odds with the prevailing Young British mentality of Hirst, Hume et al. In Britain her work didn't fit: she had to become an exile in order to develop as she needed.

In London, Brown says she was made to feel that painting the human figure in oil on canvas was a reprehensible, uncivil and reactionary occupation. As she writes: "I felt shame for my pleasure in painting, my predilection for emo-

tionally charged subjects and for my love of dead painters." Eventually she gave up – thankfully only briefly. New York gave her the context in which to work again, and at full-throttle. "This is an intoxicating time to be painting," she says, "and New York an exhilarating and sympathetic climate; the mood is generous and open and eclectic". She instances other painters she feels an affinity with – John Currin, Giles Lyon, Damien Loeb and Michael Bevilacqua among them.

What makes New York such a stimulating ambience for these artists? One thing to their advantage, as Brown sees it, is their relative time-distance from any major movement in painting. Bacon and de Kooning are dead, and though there are those who kept painting alive (she mentions Chuck Close, Alex Katz and Terry Winters), "most of the painting of the Eighties is so foreign in terms of sensibility that it is easy to almost forget all about it".

Cecily Brown herself paints huge baroque panoramas of intricate socio-sexual activity. She can orchestrate large casts brilliantly and designs her pictures like a new Rubens or Tiepolo. Her colour and imagery are rich, her technical knowledge increasingly assured. She even goes to the extreme old mastery length of varnishing her paintings (technique is back!) And she knows how to draw, having been taught by the redoubtable Maggi Hambling.

If she and the very loosely associated group of painters she mentions in her article keep up the pace, the world's museum curators and jet-set private collectors will be patrolling the lofts and galleries of Manhattan more eagerly than ever before.

An indication of the changing mood on the New York gallery circuit is Cecily Brown's own recent experience. She was the first painter that the trendy contemporary dealer Jeffrey Deitch showed, way back

in the spring of 1997. Before that, his gallery had been the locus of ultra-cool installations. The decision to show paintings as the coming thing thus represented a radical shift in the concept of what is and what can be hip.

Following her initial success, Brown was offered another show within a year. This exhibition of her new work, entitled *High Society*, runs from 24 April to 30 May at Deitch Projects, 76 Grand Street, New York 10013. It looks set to be another sell-out.

Is New York then poised for a comeback? The New York School of Pollock, de Kooning and Warhol dominated the international painting scene from 1945, but in recent years it has rather run out of steam. Many commentators look to Britain for the new stars, and are ready and willing to crown the first pretender who makes enough noise.

To be fair, there is quite a lot of experimentation, being done over

here in the name of painting – but it's still rather as if our young artists had just discovered the wheel and were very pleased with their invention. They seem strangely disabled through a lack of interest in the past as if anything pre-20th Century had nothing to do with them.

One of the strengths of the painting currently being done in New York is its awareness of past art, of the great tradition of oil painting. This awareness does not make contemporary work look traditional. It merely enriches it with a sense of art as a continuum. So it seems that real painting is alive and well and living in New York. Which means that it will be back over here in a few years' time – when the Brits have caught up. In the meantime, take the plane.

The Saatchi Gallery, open Thurs-Sun, 12 noon to 6pm. Admission £4 (£2 conc). 98A Boundary Road, London NW8 0RH. Infoline: 0171 624 8299.

## For sale: everything from flower power to comfy chairs

Where do you go if you want a nique object for your home or office? John Windsor offers some affordable suggestions

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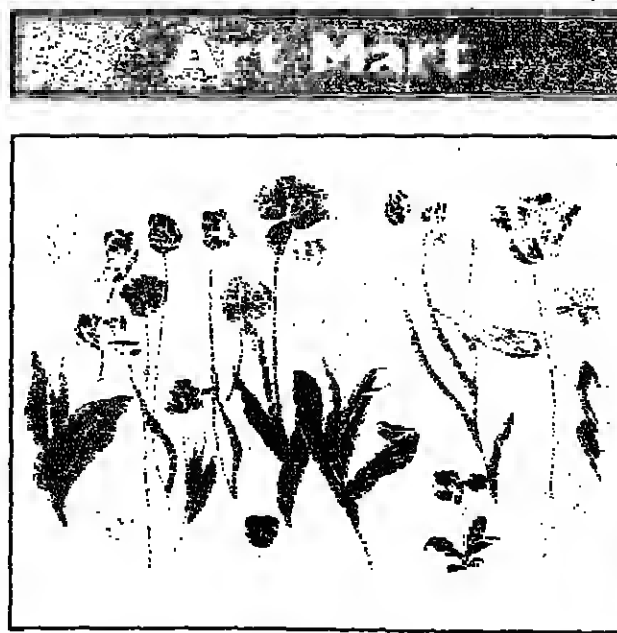


NEXT WEEK IN THE INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY



JON MILLER'S *Cooker Seat* is perfectly safe – health and safety officers insisted on the fuses being removed before it was displayed in *Hammer and Tongs*, a show of contemporary artists' blacksmiths at the University of Essex. The show's quirky furniture, vessels and sculpture could signal a new Iron Age. A surgical trolley by Mills, 38, is in the show of automata at Croydon Clock Tower. His hot seat costs £900 to commission. *Hammer and Tongs* runs until 15 May at the University of Essex Gallery, Square 5, Wivenhoe Park, Colchester, Essex (0206 872074).

A BIT more soothing – John Butler's 18in tall limewood model *Portrait of My Wife as a Comfy Chair*. Butler, 50, says: "My wife is motherly and well-upholstered. Children sit on her lap because she's warm and cuddly. A friend told her 'you're just like an armchair', so I made the model. I thought she might be offended, but she says 'it's really lovely'." The chair is £850 and is among 458 exhibits at the *Academicians' Exhibition*, until 16 May at the Royal West of England Academy, Queen's Road, Clifton, Bristol (0117 973 5129).



These tulips, grown by Elizabeth Blackadder in her Edinburgh garden and screenprinted by her in an edition of 80, are £600 + VAT at the Glasgow Print Studio's stand at the London Original Print Fair at the Royal Academy, Piccadilly, west London, until Sunday [Mem, that's 3 May]. Entry £5.

FLOWER POWER is not dead. There's a New Wave in rock poster art – away from psychedelics and into comic book graphics – and its leading light is 29-year-old Alan Forbes. Six months ago, his posters re-tailed for \$20 at the world's biggest rock art distributors, ArtRock, in San Francisco. Now they cost \$200. This one, for the re-formed band The Damned, one of a dozen he has signed for an auction of "High Art" on 5 May (Ham) is estimated £150-£250. Bonhams, Chelsea, 65-69 Lots Road, London SW10 (0171 393 3900).



IN A country cottage by a remote lake in Finland, where she spends summers with her mother, also an artist, Anna Riitta Haavisto picked these blackcurrant stalks, decked them with coloured ribbons like a multitude of twittering lapel bows, and called them "Spring Migration of Birds". It is £650 at the mother-daughter show of textile-based artworks, *Two Generations Two Visions*, until Saturday, 2 May at the Coningsby Gallery, 30 Tottenham Street, London W1 (0171-636 7478).







# THE INDEPENDENT

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## Honourable ladies in a legal tangle

IT IS a year since Blair's babes arrived at Westminster. On 1 May 1997, 101 women were elected for the Labour Party in Parliament. It was a record. Their numbers were and remain the envy of Paddy Ashdown and William Hague. It was also a vindication of the Labour Party's positive action to promote the number of females in the House of Commons. Let us remind ourselves about the dread warnings we heard before the election that these women would be out of their depth, that they would be undermined for being there by reasons other than on merit and that their assumed incompetence would drag down Parliament's prestige.

Well, there has been some sniping. And they have provided a few notable disappointments. But, on the whole, New Labour's honourable ladies have proved to be assets to the Prime Minister's party. We would defy anyone to pick out those women members who were selected on an all-women shortlist from those who were not. And the influence of the new intake may in time help Parliament to modernise and shake off some of its more absurd anachronisms and the *Loaded* outlook of some of its lack. More importantly, simply by being there they help the institution to be more representative, although women still only represent 18 per cent of the membership of the Commons. As the elections to the myriad new assemblies and the European Parliament approach, all of the parties are thrashing around for ways to boost the representation of women in politics. The Labour Party in Wales last night decided that it didn't know what to do. It could not even follow the example of its sister party in Scotland except to the extent that whatever it ends up with will be complicated. However, when the executive of the Welsh Labour Party even thinks about such a radical proposal it is time to take note and start thinking afresh about female representation.

The mechanism of the Scottish (and maybe the Welsh) system consists of "twinning" - providing for one safe seat in the respective bodies to be reserved for a woman for every safe seat where a man is the candidate. The Liberal Democrats have dreamed up a different scam for the European elections. Their system of "zipping" means that men and women are alternated down the list of party candidates for the large Euro-seats. This is designed to achieve a gender balance. The objection to these systems is not that they are complex, which they are; or that they are in effect discriminatory, which is also true. It is rather that they are unreliable because the legal framework makes their operation at best hazardous. Simply put, we do not seem to know what the law allows us to do. It is thus impossible for the political parties to design systems that are ideal. At least we should be sure about what we would like the law to allow us to do.

The biggest single obstacle now facing positive action we should call "legalism". Huge resources have been and will continue to be swallowed up in dreading up ever more craftily dodges to get round the legal obstacles. And there are potentially as many roadblocks on the course of progress as there are lawyers to give you an opinion about what may or may not be lawful under statute, judge-made, English, European, Scottish or Maritan law. These are substantial problems. They put the kibosh on the women-only shortlist policy that Labour pursued for a time in the last parliament (not by the way, our ideal method of promoting women). The views of Lord Irvine on the possibilities of boosting the number of women in the Scottish Parliament were also unhelpful.

But this is a political issue with a strong imperative. We do not want to live under a system of female tokenism. Margaret Thatcher has written about her difficulties with the attitudes of some local selection panels, and the "hurt and humiliation" they caused. She described her position in Ted Heath's shadow cabinet: "I was principally there as the statutory woman to explain what women - Kiri Te Kanawa, Barbara Cartland, Esther Rantzen, Stella Rimington and all the rest of our uniform, undifferentiated sex - were likely to think and want on troublesome issues." We cannot be assured that these attitudes have disappeared. This is the reason why some forms of positive action are desirable. The need is not diminished by the legal circumlocutions that have led to almost universal confusion about the matter. Political parties, provided they come to their conclusions democratically, have every right to try and govern their affairs as they wish. It is obvious that politics and elections present a special case as the general approach of outlawing sexual discrimination in employment. It is time to change the law, if necessary at a European level.

In the meantime politicians of all parties, and especially in the Government, have a wide range of institutions where they can try to further the cause of women even at the expense of tut-tutting from lawyers: in Scotland, Wales, Europe, London, local authorities and for the replacement for the House of Lords there is much that can be done. All that is needed is the political will that the voters showed last year to give the system a firm kick in the balls.

## One for the money ...

SO YOU thought Rod Stewart was just a 53-year-old rock star with a sagging backside in a pair of super-tight leopardskin pants? Well he isn't. And Rachel Hunt is not the only one who thinks he's sexy. He has sailed across the Atlantic and signed a deal with the brokers Nomura. Mr Stewart will receive a loan of \$15.4m (£9.2m) against his future earnings from royalties on his classic recordings. This loan will be securitised, which means that, if you were so inclined, you could own a part of Rod in terms of running a claim on his future earnings.

But the first cut was the deepest. The man who really sold the world was David Bowie who raised \$55m against his future income in a deal with the US investment bank Fuhnestock. But it's not just diamond dogs like these top stars who can go in for securitisation. The Rod Bond suggests that these big finance houses can engineer anything. Why, the day may come when any old baby Jane could tell the banks that "tonight I'm yours". Sadly most of us are unlikely to command the same kind of sums as Rod. But then again, some guys have all the luck.

## Titanic collides with a giant turtle in the fact-free zone



MILES KINGSTON

"TALKING about Cool Britannia and things cool and uncool," said the man at the bar. "I saw a list in the paper the other day of things that were cool, and places that were cool, and I thought to myself: a guide to what is cool is not cool, whatever else it is."

"I tell you one thing that is not cool," said the landlord, "and that is the Oscars. Why does anyone bother?"

"If there was anything cool about the Oscars, they wouldn't have given every prize to *Titanic*; they'd have given half of them to *The Full Monty*," said the man with the dog.

"Oh, come ON!" said the man with the rolled-up evening paper. "There's nothing cool about *The Full Monty*. It's cool NOT to like it."

"And where do YOU stand on *The Full Monty*?" said the lady with the Campari.

"Haven't seen it."

"Have you seen *Titanic*?"

"No."

"There you are, then!" said the lady with the Campari triumphantly.

"Where am I?" said the man.

"If you haven't seen it, you shouldn't talk about it."

"You mean," said the man, now waving his rolled-up paper, "never talk about things you haven't experienced personally?" And therefore we should never talk about Australia, or Concorde, or the 19th century, or ... or ...?"

"The thing about the film *Titanic*," said the man at the bar, heading the conversation off before it hit an iceberg, "is that, as everyone has pointed out, it got more Oscars than any film since *Ben Hur*. What no one has pointed out is that *Ben Hur* was also a rotten film. It is never revived, never written about, never seen and never featured in a list of My Top 100 Films. If I had made

*Titanic*, I'd be worried."

"If I'd made *Titanic*," said the man with the dog, "I'd change my name. James Cameron was the name of a great journalist. I don't think people who do special effects films should be allowed to use it."

"The man I feel sorry for is Leonardo diCaprio," said the lady with the Campari.

"What's to be sorry about?" chorled, yes chorled, the man at the bar. "Poor old Leonardo! Sinking under the weight of so many Oscars! So many admiring women!"

"What's brave about him is sporting the name 'Leonardo'," she said stoutly. "It's bad enough using a foreign name in America, but being named after a Ninja mutant teenage turtle..."

"He wasn't actually named after a turtle," said someone helpfully.

"I know that, dear," said the lady scornfully, "but the American public doesn't know that. The American public doesn't

know anything. The American public can't be trusted to pronounce Aida properly. The American public thinks that Donatello is a turtle and they'll think that Leonardo DiCaprio is named after one..."

"We're all very proud of knowing that Donatello was a painter," muttered the resident Welshman, "but I bet nobody can name any of his paintings."

"And now," the lady with the Campari cruised on, "now poor old Leonardo DiCaprio has had to shorten his name from Leonardo to Leo, Leo DiCaprio. Not quite the same ring."

"From being the only film star named after a turtle," said the man at the bar, "he has become the only film star named after a star sign."

There was a tense silence in the pub as everyone raced mentally to be the first person to think of another star sign which might be interpreted as a film star's name. I heard

someone muttering "Gemini trons" under his breath, but nobody said anything out loud, so I ventured to interject:—

"Donato di Betto Bardi."

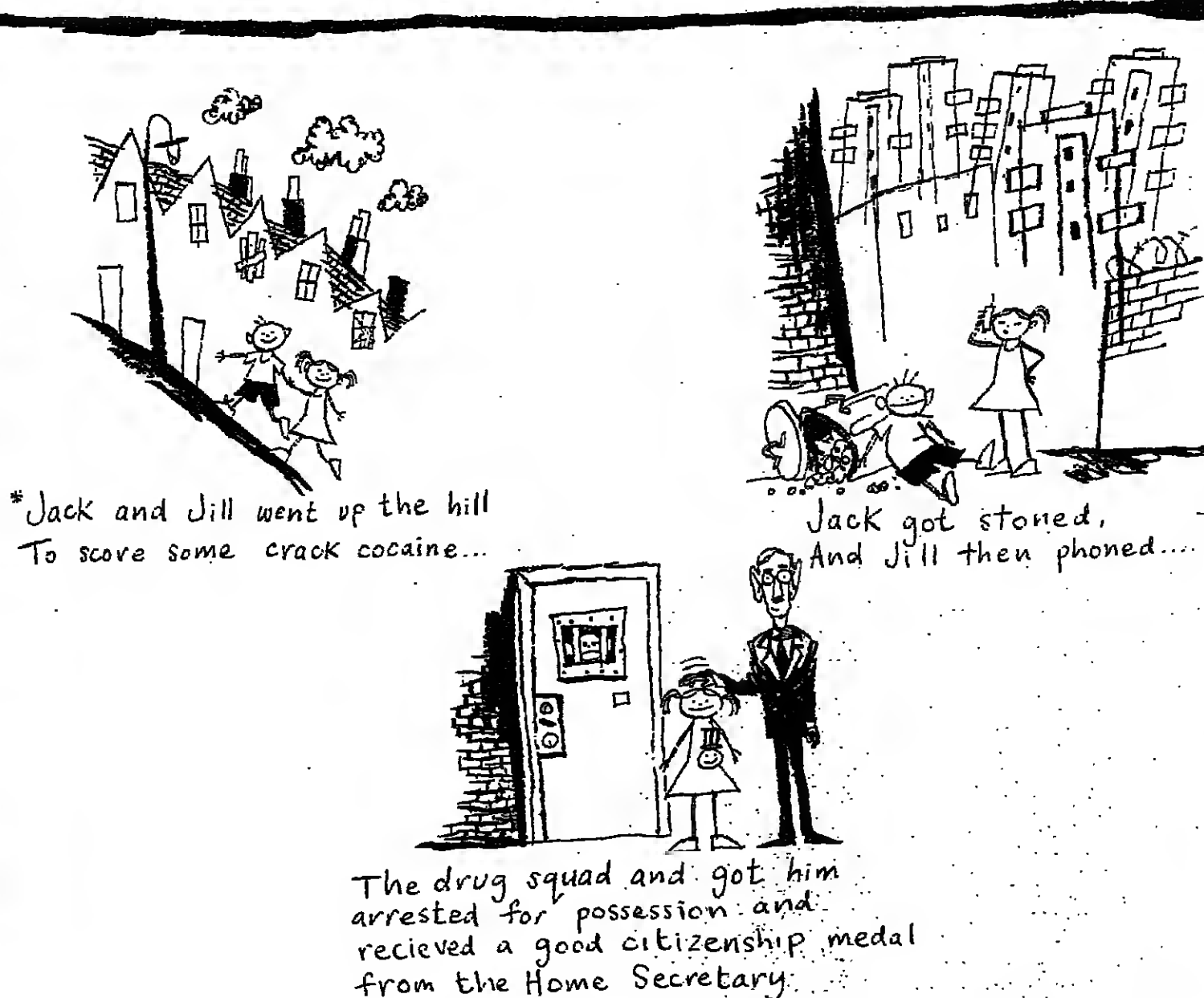
"Who's he when he's at home?" said the Campari lady.

"That's Donatello's real name," I said. "And the reason we can't name any of his paintings is that he didn't do any. He was a sculptor, not a painter."

There was a long silence. I realised, too late, that, by being unable to resist showing off, I had broken the golden rule of pub conversation: Facts Are Two A Penny. But Opinion Is Sacred. That is why pub quizzes were invented. To liberate pub conversation from mere fact and keep it free for prejudice.

"Sorry," I said. "I'll do the honourable thing and go home."

And I did. After all, I'd been looking for an excuse to leave for an hour or more.



\* Jack and Jill went up the hill  
To score some crack cocaine...

Jack got stoned,  
And Jill then phoned...

The drug squad and got him  
arrested for possession and  
recieved a good citizenship medal  
from the Home Secretary

\* JACK HAS SINCE ATTENDED A FECKLESSNESS AWARENESS PROGRAMME AND IS WELL ON THE WAY TO BECOMING AN ASSISTANT YOUTH TRAINING SCHEME APPLICANT.

PRIESTLEY

### Gays and the church

JOHN LITTLE has seriously misrepresented OutRage's stance on outing ("Self-righteous brother", 23 April). We would never out a private individual, and would out a public figure only if they were abusing their power to harm the gay community. No one has been outed by us because they are gay. It is because they are hypocrites and homophobes.

The claim that OutRage is conducting a "reign of terror" is ludicrous. OutRage once - four years ago - asked ten Anglican bishops to "tell the truth". No other people have been named by OutRage!

Bishops who endorse church homophobia in public, despite their own private homosexuality, should not complain if their hypocrisy is exposed. It may have caused the bishops some embarrassment to be found out, but that is a minor inconvenience compared to the suffering they have helped inflict on other gay people.

DAVE ALLISON  
OutRage!  
London W1

CRAIG ANDERSON (letter, 23 April) finds biblical condemnation of homosexuality clear-cut. I wonder if he is as comfortable with the host of other laws of Leviticus and Deuteronomy, such as the stoning of blasphemers (Lev 24:16) and adulterers (Deut 22:22), the ostracising of menstruating and newly delivered women (Lev 12:2-5; 15:19), and making animal sacrifices to atone for inadvertent breach of a Commandment (Lev 4).

As well as providing a moral code, the purpose of many of these laws appears to have been to identify and distinguish the Israelites socially and culturally from other peoples (Gentiles) and their customs. One of these peoples were the Greeks, whose culture is part of our heritage. I would also refer Mr Anderson to the New Testament and Jesus' charge that the Pharisees observe the tradition of the law rather than the word of God (Matthew 23:2-6; Mark 7:8-9).

HELEN KRAUS  
Kew, Surrey

CRAIG ANDERSON's letter (23 April) illustrates precisely the problem I was referring to in my own letter (20 April).

The Hebrew word, which is translated as "detestable" in his Bible and as "abomination" in the authorised version, is "to'evah". This is a technical religious word to describe something which is ritually unclean or alien. The word is strongly linked to foreigners and often appears as part of a stock phrase "to'evah ha-goyim" - "the uncleanness of the foreigners". A Jew would not enter the house of a foreigner for fear that it would make him unclean.

If the writers of Leviticus saw homosexual behaviour as a sin or an injustice they would more plausibly have used the word "sin'ah". The biblical evidence is not as straightforward as Mr Anderson thinks.

But in any case the Bible cannot be used in this way. We do not accept all the teaching in Leviticus; it no longer accords with our knowledge, or our Christian understanding, of justice or humanity, and verse 22 of chapter 18 is an example of this. The Rev NEIL DAWSON  
St Paul's, Knightsbridge  
London SW7

THE REV Neil Dawson, in his letter of 20 April, asserts that those who regard homosexuality as sinful are guilty of poor biblical scholarship, prejudice, hypocrisy and are ill-informed. The issue cannot be decided by name-calling.

The biblical teaching on sex is that God created male and female human beings in his own image and that sex is for married male/female couples alone. The Bible as a whole condemns all distortion of this basic principle, whether pre-marital sex, adultery or homosexuality.

The Bible's teaching on sex is consistent from beginning to end. It does not belong with those parts of the Bible that spoke to a unique point

in salvation history, such as the Old Testament holy wars.

If the Church is cowed by the growing homosexual lobby and its supporters into jettisoning biblical teaching on homosexual sex, then she will have failed in her calling to challenge a sinful world with the sometimes uncomfortable light of God's Word.

THE REV GUY A DAVIES  
Sturminster Newton, Dorset

### Caring for Ludlow

FEW would disagree with Sir Julian Critchley ("Saving the view from the bridge", 18 April) that Ludlow is a pearl of English townscape.

The historic fabric of the town is lovingly tended by its owners, mostly, like Sir Julian, private householders. But the local planning authority cares just as passionately about the town and spends considerable resources on it.

The old swimming pool will be expensive to demolish, the funds for which may have to come from redevelopment. Development on the site is hardly shocking, as it has had mill buildings on it for centuries, as seen in the Turner watercolour. The rejected scheme for the site was carefully designed to give the impression of mill buildings.

Ludlow is a working market town and not a museum. The keys to its future are its prosperity and its historic fabric. Market towns will not survive unless the market has the facilities it needs to operate.

The council is as keen as Sir Julian not to have the town decline because of out-of-town retailing and has successfully resisted proposals of this kind. But Ludlow's butchers and other shops continue to thrive because they provide a good service; not because there is no Tesco. Ludlow shops have much to gain from new trade which will be attracted by a modern supermarket.

Until recently, all the land at Gallops Bank was zoned for housing. The Council has agreed to allow some of it to be retained as open space, just as Sir Julian suggests. As for the development of fields to the south of the town, no such thing is proposed in either the current local plan or its proposed replacement.

JAMES CAIRD  
Head of Planning and Building  
Control  
South Shropshire District Council  
Ludlow, Shropshire

### After the dance

LINDA YATES is quoted ("What happens after the last dance is over?", 17 April) as saying that when she first became executive director of the Dancers' Resettlement Fund, for many dancers retirement equalled death. This is hard to understand since Miss Yates's predecessor, Margaret Lawford Wilson, was responsible for running the fund soon after the Arts Council, with Equity, launched it in 1973.

Margaret advised dancers on re-training and other opportunities for about fifteen years until her untimely death and no dancer eligible for assistance from the fund was ever left to feel there was no future once their dancing days were over. The establishment of the fund was in fact one of the most important achievements of my advisers during my two decades of responsibility for dance at the Arts Council.

I am happy to agree with the final paragraph about dancers' strengths. Margaret had little difficulty in "selling" dancers to those responsible for training schemes since dancers became renowned very early on for their discipline and single-mindedness.

JANE NICHOLAS  
London W6  
The writer was dance director, Arts Council of Great Britain 1979-89

### Spirit of the People

SOMEONE should tell Suzanne Moore ("A National Obsession", 17 April) that the People's World Cup is just like the People's Diamond People's Millennium Dome, the People's Lottery, the People's Mayor for London and, when it comes the People's Euro.

Sensible reservations like hers are not just irrelevant, they are meaningless, since the essence of all these packages as they are sold to us is objectivity, but enthusiasm. They are not intended to be approached with spirit of calm disinterest - that's the biffins. To criticise a People's Euro is to show that you don't feel part of it. If you don't feel part of it, you're not part of New Britain. If you're not part of New Britain you're an old thinker. If you're an old thinker you're not entitled to criticise.

Game, set and match to the New Third Way in politics.  
CA BANKS  
London SE8

### Flag of inconvenience

ONCE AGAIN (24 April) someone has written to point out that the Union Flag has been flown upside down, and that this is a "distress signal". Is this just a myth? It seems unlikely to be true, because it is obviously very easy to fly the Union Flag upside down inadvertently, it is very difficult to tell at a glance which way up the flag is and there are unambiguous distress signals for different situations such as a fire, and so on. Can anyone shed any light on this?

ALEXANDER CAMPBELL  
St John's College, Oxford

### Bishop on a bike

PATRICK LOCKE, the Church Commissioners' Secretary, tells readers that bishops are provided with suitable cars in the 1.6 to 2.3 litre range, and sometimes with a driver (letter, 24 April). I understand that when the late Trevor Huddleston was bishop of Masasi he went everywhere by pushbike.

J R HEATH  
Southampton



otest  
nes

## Should Mary Bell be paid for telling her story to an author?



ANDREAS  
WHITTAM SMITH  
ON THE PUBLIC  
INTEREST DEFENCE

WHAT is the public interest in a further book about Mary Bell, the child murderer? That is the key question in a controversy which has blown up about whether Bell should have been paid for her collaboration by the author, Gita Sereny. While the public interest can support many things, even the early release of terrorist killers from prison in Northern Ireland, it should never be pleaded lightly. Nonetheless it is the essence of the case put forward by the distinguished writer.

She said over the weekend that unprecedented access to Bell, for which she had had to pay, had helped her to produce a serious analysis of the reasons why children become killers, "which can only be in the public interest". And she added: "There are no excuses for what she did and she herself admits that, but it is an explanation we have never had before. It is important to have such knowledge."

Sereny has already written one book on the subject - *The Case of Mary Bell*. It was published in 1972, four years after Bell, then aged 11, had been convicted for the manslaughter - rather than the murder - of two boys, aged four and three, on the grounds of diminished responsibility. She was given a life sentence in December, 1968 and released from prison in 1980. I haven't read *The Case of Mary Bell*, but having enjoyed Sereny's study of Albert Speer, Hitler's overlord of the Nazi war economy, I can well believe that the 1972 publication was thorough and perceptive, albeit lacking Bell's reflections.

However we should not have to wait for a journalist to turn up, read the evidence, conduct interviews, hand out money to a convicted killer and write a book in order to learn more about the minds of child murderers. The undoubted public interest in understanding why children occasionally kill children - there have been, thankfully, only 27 recorded occurrences in Britain in the past 250 years including the Bulger case - would probably best be served by professional psychiatrists working in prisons and comparing what they learn with work done elsewhere. Except that, disgracefully, nothing like that seems to have taken place in this instance.

The judge wanted to place Bell into indefinite psychiatric care. But such accommodation was not available, and instead Mr Justice Cusack had to pass a life sentence. He said: "It is a most unhappy thing that in all the resources of this country, it appears there is no hospital available which is suitable for the accommodation of this girl." What happened to Bell is barely credible.

She received no psychiatric treatment at all, despite having been charged on the footing of "diminished responsibility". Instead she went to a remand home for children in London. But as a result of the objections of

local residents, she was quickly moved to an approved school for boys - yes, boys, 22 of them! On reaching 16 she was transferred to a woman's prison in Cheshire and then to an open prison in Staffordshire.

While these are the classic conditions under which publishers can plead the public interest - when the state has manifestly failed to do what we expect of it - they are not sufficient. Certainly it seems that there has been only Sereny to analyse the Bell case and to point out the lessons. That fact is not necessarily enough, however, to exonerate her or her publishers from the criticisms that have been made. Even the Prime Minister has intervened and asked the Home Secretary, Jack Straw, to look into the matter.

The point about relying upon the public interest as justification, is that it always carries with it a cost, or a disadvantage. Otherwise it would not be necessary to call upon such a lofty notion as explanation for one's actions. What are the minuses here?

I put in first place the renewed suffering of the families of the two victims. The mother of Martin Brown, June Richardson, said: "It's like Martin has been killed all over again." The other parents were too distressed to speak of their feelings.

A second minus is the issue which attracted the headlines - the payment to Mary Bell. It was first stated to have been £50,000, but Gita Sereny says that this is a figure plucked out of the air - as most probably it was. She admits that yes, Bell did receive some money, "from me", but she does not indicate how much. It is puzzling that the author should have felt the need to pay. As soon as a reporter offers money for information, he or she is subject to the risk that material will be invented, or at least embroidered, simply to

Gita Sereny admits  
that yes, Bell did  
receive some money  
"from me"

please the buyer and attract more funds. And if you are dealing with the childhood memories and the half-submerged recollections of an unhappy girl whose mother was a prostitute specialising in sado-masochism, and whose father was a drunken, petty criminal, then the difficulties are all the greater.

There is finally the aspect of the transaction which Sereny is far too intelligent and experienced not to have noticed - providing a monetary reward for the perpetrator of a crime, albeit long after the event and therefore not illegal. The families must be wondering whether Sereny's payment has not had the effect of putting Bell into a better financial position than the ones in which they find themselves, they who are the victims of the crimes along with their slaughtered children.

I can rephrase my question: what is the public interest in the book, seeing how great are the disadvantages of the endeavour? Alas, as publication is not due for a few days, I cannot give an answer. But Sereny is a compassionate woman with a belief in the innate goodness of human beings which she has held onto through a long life. She has, in different parts of Europe, confronted and alleviated much human misery. I hope she hasn't made a mistake in returning to the case of Mary Bell and that her work will justify her methods.

## If you want to find true British values today, look to black youth

A close look at race across Britain has persuaded Sir Peregrine Worsthorne to abandon his racial prejudices



Multi-cultural Britain: preferable to Cool Britannia every time

Photograph: Gideon Mendel/Network

WHILE spending a fortnight filming a programme on race, I listened to a great many views, including those of black and white police officers, soldiers, teachers, children, sportsmen and many others.

Television is good at communicating visual images and very bad at communicating ideas. Because of that, I rather doubt whether anyone watching me and Darius Howe, the radical black journalist who shared my investigations, was much the wiser about where we stood on this great issue at the end than at the beginning of Channel 4's *England, My England* last Sunday night. Indeed, I am still a bit muddled myself.

Race is still a problem for some of my generation. No longer because we regard blacks as inferior but because, having done so in the past, traces of that prejudice remain in the blood despite being banished from the brain.

Looking back I am amazed about the depth of racist indoctrination which I received at school and in the home not explicitly but implicitly. At the best blacks were regarded as delinquent children and at the worst cannibals and savages. For years those assumptions lingered, seriously affecting my reporting on the de-colonising process in Africa.

India, of course, was another matter. There snobbery came into the picture and polo-playing Maharajahs were grand enough to be treated as honorary gentlemen. Not so African chiefs. I remember in the early 1960s visiting a Ghanaian chief, king of the Ashanti, who was living in what was more like a chicken coop than a palace. His black subjects addressed him only on all fours, but white visitors scarcely bothered to take off their hats.

No, we should admit that our colonial treatment of blacks was not a pretty story. But that is all in the past. I am glad to say that in all our travels around the country Darius met nothing but deference. The only hint of racism we encountered was on the terraces during a football match when a white lout tried to attack Darius and yelled obscenities at him. But even that ugly incident had a

happy ending because, at the end of the game, the lout's white companion forced the offender to apologise.

At my old school, Stowe in Buckinghamshire, Darius's prowess in the cricket nets assured him a hero's welcome. Unlike in my day before World War II when there was not a black face to be seen, the school is now visibly multi-racial, with boys from Uganda and Sri Lanka expressing amazement and even indignation that there could be any question of their suffering discrimination because of the colour of their skin.

The same was true of the

black, seemed to know or care, treating the question as a bit of a joke.

Just why he came clear when we sat in on a history lesson. It became evident that so much historical pussy-footing has to go on in multi-racial schools - so as not to upset one race or another, particularly over slavery - that questions of nationality are overlooked, as if lost in the mist of time, with no relevance to the present and still less to the future.

One was reminded a bit of German education after the war, when nationality was also played down. In Germany's

this in Brixton, where we patrolled the streets in the company of a pretty white policewoman who seemed on the best of terms with all the locals, black and white.

Recalling the race riots of 17 years ago, this was a miraculous transformation. Probably hardcore racism can be found simmering under the surface, but it no longer dares to raise its ugly head. Darius believes there is much more to be done. He wants to see the whole idea of Britishness redefined so that it not only excludes racial prejudice, but positively includes an understanding of im-

extreme demands will only put the clock back. Compromise, knowing when to stop, half measures these are the essence of Britishness and so, even in a multi-racial Britain, they must remain.

Like most of my generation I accept, indeed welcome, the new Caribbean dimension to Britishness, which has greatly enlivened the quality of our national life. Indeed in many respects my new friend Darius Howe is more British, in the old-fashioned sense, speaking better English, knowing more British history, more widely read in English literature than many British whites.

And if Charles Dickens were to return today, he would, I am sure, feel more at home in colourful Brixton than he would in contemporary Islington. New Labour's favourite haunt.

Give me multi-racial Britain rather than Cool Britannia every time. Nor, I believe, am I alone in this attitude. Compared to so many of today's youth, black youth is to be preferred: more friendly and even more polite. In a phrase, they are more British.

Old England, my England, has gone for ever. New Britain is here to stay. And in these circumstances, I embrace the black dimension as one of the least worrying and most encouraging innovations.

This article originally appeared in the 'Daily Mail'.

And if Charles Dickens were to return today, he would, I am sure, feel more at home in colourful Brixton than he would in contemporary Islington

boys and girls we met at a comprehensive school in Hampstead, North London. But this was less surprising there because black and brown faces seemed almost to outnumber whites, to the point where had there been any discrimination around it would probably have been on the other side. Not that we saw the slightest evidence of that.

Something else, however, did worry me. At a gathering of pupils, we caused a stir by asking those present what nationality they believed themselves to be. None, white as much as

case the aim was to prepare a new German generation for citizenship of a federal Europe.

Doubtless no such conscious aim is at work here. Even so, the diminution of British nationalism, which seems to be involved in the process of creating a multi-racial society, could all too easily have rather similar results.

But apart from this disturbing prospect, I was much encouraged by our journey. Amazing progress towards eliminating the evil of racism has been made. I was particularly struck by the evidence of

persecution as seen through black eyes - a recognition of past wrongs done by the whites to the blacks.

That is asking too much. While it strikes me as reasonable to adapt the idea of Britishness enough to make black Britons feel comfortable here, it is going too far to expect it to be redefined so that white Britons are made to feel uncomfortable and guilty. Such

## Conceptual creation - from Rembrandt to the ICA



JOSIE  
AILLARD  
ARTS DIARY

IT'S tough, being a conceptual artist. Not only is there the difficulty of working in a medium where the idea is all, but there's also the knotty problem of how best to convey your abstract idea to the general public without using landscape, portraiture or still life - which, of course, turns a conceptual artist into a traditional one. Come to think of it, I suppose Rembrandt could be termed conceptual since, strictly speaking, he must have had concepts about what he was painting before he started on a picture. But the fact that he then went for clearly recognisable scenes, such as the Nativity or his wife wading about in a river, meant that everyone ended up reading his art as ordinary art.

Publicly funded galleries that want to show conceptual art find themselves under some sort of obligation to explain it. The Tate Gallery has employed a Curator of Interpretation, who does the job very well; and during its annual feast of conceptualism, known as the Turner Prize, has begun to provide a small chamber screening explanatory videos. For example, last year's show included a pair of ear plugs by conceptualist Cornelia Parker. Now, if you haven't seen the video which told you that these minute sculptures, which looked like tiny champagne corks, were fashioned out of dust garnered by the artist from the Whispering Gallery in St Paul's Cathedral, where would you be?

Take the exhibition of artists Olly and Sizzle, painters with a penchant for wild animals. In terms of straightforward animal portraiture, the work was fairly ordinary, but it was made newsworthy because of its "symbolic concept".

Which was that the animals were encouraged to "interact" with the paintings by biting, walking or urinating over the canvas. Impressive stuff; however, unless you knew that those big grey soggy splashes were made by elephant poo, or that the minute indentations in the upper right hand corner were actually cheetah bite-marks, the overall effect was severely reduced.

Meanwhile on the Mall in Central London Chadwick and Spector, a conceptual couple from New York City had taken it upon themselves to wow anyone passing by. Whilst Spector (a woman), walked around with a camcorder, Chadwick, a man painted from the waist up with blue and red rectangles, spent a great deal of time drawing on the pavement in chalk. About 200 people were standing around watching, presumably lured by a somewhat disingenuous paragraph in *Time Out* which promised the experience of seeing people dressed up as famous paintings. "Maybe he's meant to be a Mondrian," suggested my husband hopefully. I advanced on Spector to find out more. "We discuss the space in which art can exist, and how decisions are made about how art can be viewed," she said. I sensed I was to experience a conceptual white-out of gargantuan proportions and played for time by asking her about her name. "I just go by Spector," she said, which of course made perfect sense. True conceptual burnies always go by the single mononym (think Christo; think Sting).

Meanwhile Chadwick was continuing to draw. "He's doing the floor plan from the ICA next door," explained

Spector helpfully. "The red and blue lines on the pavement correspond with the red and blue paintings on his body. He is a conduit. The questions this piece is posing are about the ephemeral nature of art." Hmm.

She handed me a piece of paper. In entirety, it read: EPHMERAL DRAWINGS NO 1. THIS PERFORMANCE IS BETWEEN AN INSTITUTIONAL SPACE AND A PUBLIC SPACE. WHAT YOU SEE IN AN INSTITUTIONAL SPACE IS DETERMINED BY A FEW, WHEREAS PUBLIC SPACES CAN BE DETERMINED BY THE MANY.

I asked Spector if she thought people might easily twig what was going on. "It's conceptual," she said, patiently. "It's not our place to worry about what the audience does or does not understand. We are artists." Great.

All at once, the floor plan was finished. Spector ran over to join her partner. There was an excited rustle in the crowd. Then both artists walked off. A few people looked at their handouts, presumably hoping for more clues as to why they had just spent an hour watching a conduit in body paint drawing on the pavement. Then everyone drifted away. See what I mean? At least you know where you are with a Rembrandt.

This is not to say that all abstract art is guff. And of course when you understand a bit more about it, the good stuff becomes even better. Last week I felt like decking the official spokesperson on the Official London Sightseeing Boat when we floated past the National Theatre and

he cheerfully introduced it as "the ugliest building in London". It's not when you hear Denys Lasdun explain the concept of the building, which was to design it in steps, thus mirroring the strata of natural rock, the horizontal look of London, and the river itself. Mate.

And sometimes art must be left to explain itself. Witness the experience of Clive Anderson when he opened this year's Summer Exhibition. Not at the Royal Academy, but the Islington Art Circle's exhibition at the Central Library, N1.

The exhibition consisted of two long rows of screens hung with an assortment of landscapes, portraits, sculptures and photographs. Traditional views of London jostled with large nudes and rather extraordinary pieces including a portrait of tabloid hack Richard Littlejohn. Yet the world's most famous ex-barrister was to get none of this.

"Firstly I forgot all my art jokes which I had made up specially for the occasion," admitted Clive. "Then I didn't have a minute to look at any art. Every time I saw something I liked, the artist would pop up at my elbow and tell me how brilliant the picture was. Impossible."

Anyway, he could rest safe in the knowledge that none of the art, which was all for sale, was conceptual. The Tate defines conceptual art as one which "should not be sullied by the materialism of the marketplace... (made of) ... low value materials or simply the artist's own actions." So you won't be seeing any at Christie's in the near future.

ONLY  
21  
DAYS TO GO

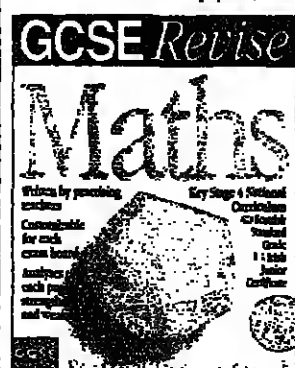
The first GCSE exams are only 21 days away

Is your child ready?

Q A dart travels through the air for 0.15 seconds. It travels 2m, calculate its speed.

- a) 13.3 m/s
- b) 30 m/s
- c) 0.3 m/s

Answer in tomorrow's paper (yesterday's answer was b, at its focus)



To make sure  
your child is  
ready, buy  
DK Acacia  
GCSE Revise  
Maths NOW  
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PC/MAC CD-ROM

Also available:  
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Available from all good software retailers or your DKF Advisor







# Shareholders ready to oust Biotech chiefs

By Terry Macalister

LEADING shareholders in British Biotech may demand an extraordinary general meeting to engineer removal of top management at the troubled company.

Key investors said they were "continued to be concerned" despite a public promise from British Biotech yesterday that it was preparing a detailed circular to set the record straight.

They said an EGM would be a vehicle to remove senior executives including Dr Keith McCullagh, the chief executive, or to force a change in corporate direction.

Shares in the company have plummeted to 52.5p from a high of £3 in early 1996 when British Biotech shot to prominence on the back of its cancer drug, Marimastat. This has meant capitalisation has fallen from nearly £2bn to £300m, although this is still sizeable considering it only employs 400 staff.

The Oxford-based company has been mauled by a range of setbacks, ranging from revelations of London Stock Exchange and the US Securities & Exchange Commission inquiries, as well as controversial share sales and staff departures.

In addition the company, once a contender for the FTSE-100 index, has seen a research alliance with Glaxo Wellcome collapse and the forced delay of its Zucater drug launch.

The sacking last week of Dr Andrew Millar, the head of clinical trials, has escalated investor concern about the company's activities. Dr Millar, an important contact for many investors, was removed for alleged breach of confidentiality.

He had met senior officials from Perpetual, which holds a 9 per cent stake in British Biotech, and expressed concerns about the commercial direction of his own company.

Dr Millar believed British Biotech was expanding much too fast on the presumption that trials for the pancreatic drug Zucater and Marimastat would be successful. He wanted a more measured pace of development.

A statement from British Biotech repeated its view that "matters raised by Dr Andrew Millar had no substance or reflected purely personal opinions".

It regretted the "damage being done to the company and its shareholders by the repetition of these allegations". British Biotech said they would be refuted in depth through a circular now under preparation.

The paper to shareholders would outline the company's approach to strategy, update research and development plus give a statement of year-end cash balances to 30 April 1998. It is expected within the next four weeks.

The company will not comment on suggestions that the London Stock Exchange is "again" investigating the timing of shares sales worth £618,000 by Dr McCullagh in January 1995.

The company admits an investigation into this issue was undertaken in the same year and no found there was "no issue to raise". The London Stock Exchange also declined to comment in line with a policy of not making statements in the middle of a disciplinary review.

The SEC is looking at the wording of press releases put out by British Biotech in November 1995 and May the following year. The company confirms this investigation is under way.

Unsettled within the investment community has also been stirred by revelations that the European Medicines Evaluation Agency notified British Biotech in May last year it had five objections to Zucater.

Two statements put out by the company a week later on trial results and the building up of a management team, were seen by outsiders as highly positive.

Optimism had surrounded the biotech



Under fire: Dr Keith McCullagh, above, may be removed by shareholders. The 53-year-old chief executive has embittered former staff members, one of whom described him as having the intransigent qualities "similar to Mrs Thatcher".

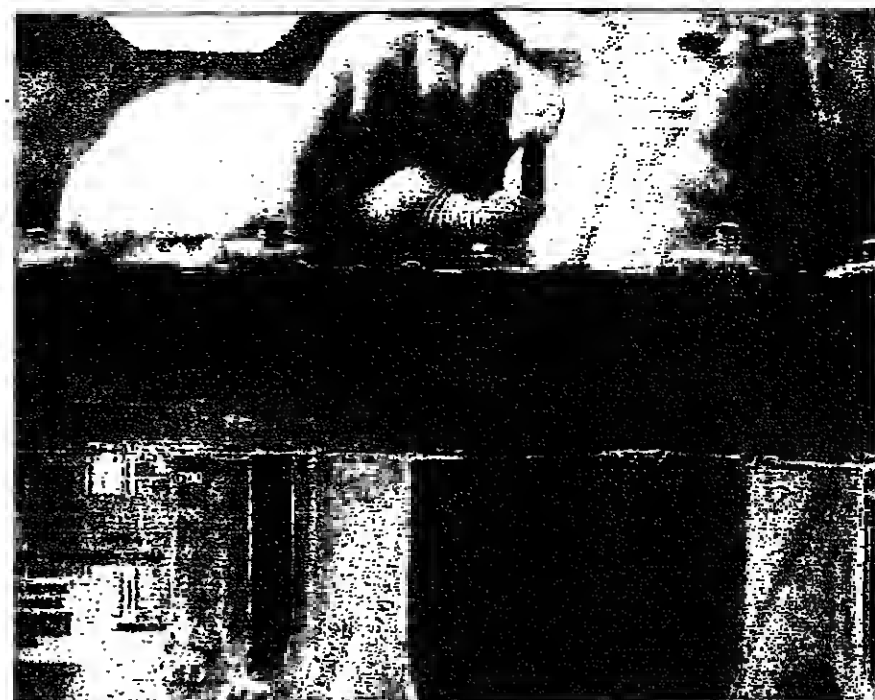
company since 1994 and management tapped into this by mounting two successful rights issues, in spring 1994 and summer 1996, which raised £230m.

With shares now close to the floor, James Culverwell, pharmaceutical analyst with Merrill Lynch, said continuing allegations were undermining what remained of the City's confidence.

He explained: "This whole saga is causing great uncertainty and the market likes that less than anything. People read the stories which are now being revealed by newspapers and wonder what the real situation is."

Culverwell believes the key issue is the success of the drugs. He adds: "At the end of the day the company will live or breathe by the value of its technology and that is what the market needs comfort on."

Brian White, analyst at BT Alex Brown, said neither British Biotech nor the City was coming out of the whole affair smelling of roses. "The investment community was wholly unrealistic about the past value they



## Key issues in the crisis

□ The Securities & Exchange Commission is investigating public statements put out by British Biotech on 30 November 1995 and 21 May 1996, regarding the clinical process of its Marimastat drug.

□ The Stock Exchange is understood to be looking at the timing of share transactions by Keith McCullagh, Biotech's chief executive. He sold shares worth £618,000 on 17 January 1995. A month later the company revealed delays in the development of its Marimastat drug. Biotech says it "cannot comment" except to say the issue was investigated by the Stock Exchange in 1995 and the Exchange found "there was no issue to raise".

□ Dr Andrew Millar questioned his superiors' business plan of spending £50m a year. He deemed it out of proportion to the chances of the drugs being found successful in trials under way. British Biotech dismisses Dr Millar's concerns as having "no substance or reflecting purely personal opinions".

□ British Biotech put out statements announcing the results of drug trials and plans to establish a commercial structure in 1997. These statements, perceived positively by outsiders, came days after the European Medicines Evaluation Agency told the company it had five objections to its pancreatic drug, Zucater. Biotech said the objections were "part of a normal regulatory review process" and the issues had been addressed.

put on the company." But he said that biotech companies had to be careful about the way they released information about clinical trials and other drug developments. "Their disclosure must be beyond reproach."

Bob Yerbury, chief investment officer at Perpetual, said his company would continue to hang on to its British Biotech shareholding for "the time being". He added: "We still have a belief in the product line and want to ensure the products have the best chance of coming to the market."

The problems at the company have been compounded by the number of former senior staff members who have come forward to tell their tale.

Apart from Dr Millar, there has also been former finance director, James Noble, who left the company on 13 February. He admits part of the reason he departed was because he was prevented from selling shares he owned in British Biotech in January last year.

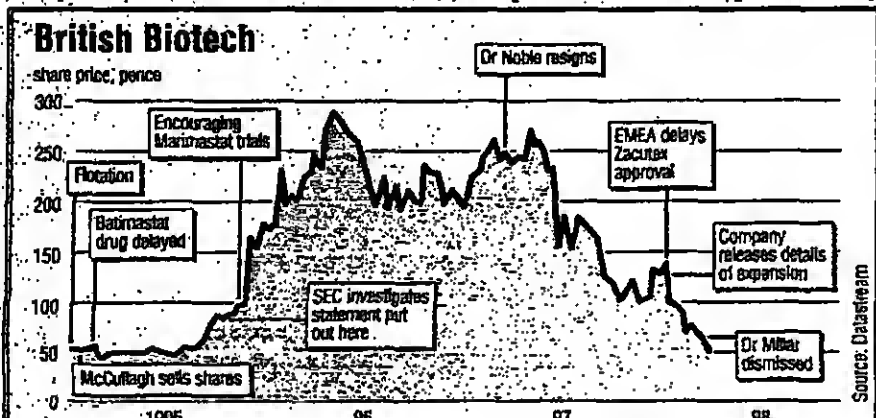
He said yesterday: "It was just an accumulation of things. The shares thing was just the icing on the cake." In fact the greater issue appears to be personality clashes with Dr McCullagh.

The 53-year-old chief executive has embittered former staff members one of whom described him as having the intransigent qualities "similar to Mrs Thatcher".

He built British Biotech into a major player from what amounts to his front room after his employer, the UK research arm of GD Searle, was bought out by Monsanto and shut in 1986.

Mr McCullagh dominated his board but disgruntled shareholders said his dominant position was now under threat.

Outlook, Page 23



## Mr Yen escapes with a pay cut

JAPAN'S "Mr Yen", the vice Finance Minister for International Affairs, Eisuke Sakakibara, was among 112 Ministry of Finance (MoF) officials punished yesterday for accepting lavish entertainment from private firms.

But few analysts felt Japan's most influential financial bureaucrat was in danger of losing his job over the affair.

Hikaru Matsunaga, the Finance Minister, announced the action against Mr Sakakibara and the other officials in a statement at the end of an internal investigation covering over 1,050 MoF staff who had contacts with the private sector over the past five years.

The statement said Mr Sakakibara, whose comments influence currency markets around the world, received a "warning" and would take a voluntary pay cut of 20 per cent for a month. It said he was entertained about 20 times over a five-year period but the amount of money involved was not given.

Some officials were entertained more than 60 times. Of the 112 punished, one received

the highest punishment of suspension from duties; 17 received pay cuts; 14, including Sakakibara, received warnings; 22 received admonishments; 33 received a written caution and 25 received a verbal caution.

Mr Matsunaga said Atsushi Nagano, the director-general of the ministry's Securities Bureau, and Takashi Sugii, deputy director-general of the Banking Bureau, had resigned as a result of the affair. Earlier this month, the *Asahi Shimbun* said Mr Nagano had accepted entertainment of ¥4.7m (£22,000).

Two MoF officials have handed themselves over the scandal, which some reports said involved winning and dining at restaurants where the waitresses were no underware.

It was the latest blow for the powerful ministry, which has been battered by scandal recently. Four MoF employees were arrested for accepting excessive winning and dining from financial institutions, ultimately forcing the former Finance Minister, Hiroshi Mitsuoka, and Vice Finance Minister to resign.

Of the 112 punished, one received

## Debenhams plans more new stores

By Nigel Cope  
City Correspondent

DEBENHAMS, the department store group which was demerged from Burton in January, shrugged off the gloom on the high street yesterday with a sharp increase in profits and an aggressive store opening programme that will create 6,000 new jobs.

Debenhams is to open six new stores in Weymouth, Carlisle, Sunderland, Oxford, York and Milton Keynes.

These are in addition to the 10 new stores previously announced and will bring the total number of outlets to around 100.

"We are only in 60 per cent of the towns and cities we would like to be in," said Terry Green, Debenhams' chief executive, who said the company did not yet have branches in Birmingham, Liverpool, Leeds city centre and Newcastle.

He denied the group was expanding at the wrong time in the cycle even though other re-

tailers have recently said they plan to cut back their store opening programmes due to the uneconomic rents now being charged by landlords.

He claimed Debenhams was able to negotiate good terms with shopping centre developers who were keen to have Debenhams as an anchor tenant. The store opening programme will cost £235m.

Mr Green was speaking at Debenhams' announcement of a 16.3 per cent rise in half year profits to £77m. Like-for-like sales improved by 5.3 per cent, which analysts said was a good performance in a difficult retail environment.

"Conditions on the high street have been very volatile and there are quite clearly winners and losers," Mr Green said. "We had windfalls last year, now we have higher interest rates. But we are cautiously optimistic."

Mr Green said the group's strategy of driving sales and margins was on track. It was speeding up expansion plans to drive the business forward, and

there would be more to come.

The company did not disclose its current trading figures but said they were in line with expectations. Analysts estimated that sales were up by around 4 per cent on a same store basis. Debenhams shares, which have performed poorly since the demerger, jumped 26.5p to 374p on the news.

John Richards, retail analyst at BT Alex Brown, said: "This was a very strong performance in a difficult market. The Debenhams format, with its wide choice of brands is proving successful."

The stock market was pleasantly surprised by Debenhams' figures after becoming nervous about retail stocks in the wake of poor performances from other UK retailers, including Next and Laura Ashley.

Debenhams sales on continuing operations were up by 8 per cent to £770m. There was a maiden interim dividend of 3.9p.

The group also announced three more franchise outlets overseas.

## FTSE 100 dives on rate fears

By Lea Paterson

MORE THAN £25bn was wiped off the value of UK blue-chip shares yesterday as the FTSE 100 tumbled by 140 points on US interest rate worries.

Market sentiment was not helped by overnight share falls in the Far East and renewed fears about the impact of the Asian crisis on corporate earnings.

Ian Williams, strategist at Panmure Gordon, said: "Everything hinges on what happens on Wall Street overnight. But in my opinion there are too many people being cautious for there to be a crash."

At lunchtime, the US Dow Jones Industrial Average was down 188.3 at 8,876.29.

Back in the UK the FTSE 100 share index closed at 5,722.4, down 141.5 but slightly off the day's low of 5,699.9.

Financial stocks were among the heaviest losers, with Halifax down 44p at 787.5p, and Lloyds TSB down 20p to 901p.

Traders said that comments from leading US officials -

coupled with weekend press reports - had fuelled growing fears that the Federal Reserve could raise US interest rates when it meets at the end of next month.

Market sentiment was also damaged by Monday's falls in Japan and Hong Kong, traders said.

The Japanese Nikkei closed down 361.29 at 15,649.95, and the Hang Seng - Hong Kong's key share index - closed down 286.22 at 10,593.74. Analysts said the markets were disappointed with budget measures announced by the Japanese government last Friday and, in particular, with the government's failure to include permanent income-tax cuts.

Traders said markets were likely to be jittery until key US economic data is published later this week.

UK economic data out today includes trade figures and the latest CBI industrial trends survey. Economists said yesterday that the figures would need to be "way out of line" to shake the market's perception that the next move in UK interest rates would be down.

## Retail chief nets £1m

SIR GEOFF MUKAHY, chief executive of Kingfisher, the Woolworths to B&Q retailer, has confirmed his membership of the £1m-a-year club with a 19 per cent rise in total pay to £1.4m, says Nigel Cope.

Sir Geoff, who has consistently been one of Britain's highest-paid retailers, saw his £665,000 salary boosted by a £680,000 annual bonus and a £111,000 payment under the company's long-term incentive scheme. The details were included in the company's annual report, published yesterday.

The company defended the payments saying: "People only need to look at the record results announced recently and the company's share price performance." In the year to 31 January 1998, the period covered by the latest annual report, Kingfisher's shares rose 41.6 per cent and have risen sharply since.

Jim Hodgkinson, the former head of B&Q who left the group this month to become chief executive of New Look, the fashion retailer, saw his pay rise to £945,000, including bonuses of more than £500,000.

### Yesterday in the markets

#### STOCK MARKETS

Index	Close	Change	52 wk high	52 wk low	Yield (%)
FTSE 100	5722.40	-141.50	6150.50	4361.20	3.61
FTSE 250	2564.00	-36.30	2805.90	1984.20	2.91
FTSE 350	2774.10	-58.80	2938.70	2113.20	3.48
FTSE All Share	2709.80	-51.10	2842.20	2182.10	2.95
FTSE 100 Dividend	2002.60	-14.10	2113.20	1417.30	3.28
FTSE AIM	1074.60	-2.70	1085.70	985.60	-1.07
New Jones	8017.90	-147.48	8213.30	6701.14	1.50
Nikkei	15649.95	-361.29	20510.73	14486.21	0.97
Hong Kong	10593.74	-286.22	12925.31	7295.33	3.75
SENSEX	5086.73	-56.15	5442.00	3361.71	1.50

#### INTEREST RATES

### Short sterling

Day	Rate
Fri	7.50
Sat	7.40
Sun	7.30
Mon	7.20
Tue	7.10
Wed	7.00
Thu	7.00

### UK 10 year gilt

Day	Yield
Fri	5.50
Sat	5.40
Sun	5.30
Mon	5.20
Tue	5.10
Wed	5.00
Thu	5.00

### US long bond

Day	Yield
Fri	6.00
Sat	5.90
Sun	5.80
Mon	5.70
Tue	5.60
Wed	5.50
Thu	5.50

### Money Market Rates

	3 month	1 yr	5 yr	10 yr
UK	7.50	0.97	7.44	0.38
US	5.59	-0.16	5.51	-0.53
Germany	3.84	6.43	5.94	6.86

### Bond Yields

	3 month	1 yr	5 yr	10 yr
UK	5.50	-0.16	5.51	-0.53
US	5.59	-0.16	5.51	-0.53
Germany	3.84	6.43	5.94	6.86

### US long bond

	3 month	1 yr	5 yr	10 yr
US	5.59	-0.16	5.51	-0.53
Germany	3.84	6.43	5.94	6.86

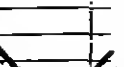
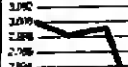
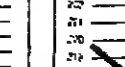
## MAIN PRICE CHANGES

	Price (£)	Chg (£)	% Chg
Debenhams	374.00	28.50	7.6%
Asda Group	87.50	5.00	6.0%
BBC	167.50	6.50	6.0%
Smith (David S)	222.50	12.00	5.7%

### Fatex

	Price (£)	Chg (£)	% Chg
Woolworths	1951.00	-150.00	-7.5%
Decca Bus Sys	290.00	-21.50	-7.5%
Schroders	2402.00	-173.00	-7.2%
Norwich Union	420.00	-28.50	-6.8%

#### CURRENCIES

<b>\$/£</b>			<b>DM/£</b>			<b>¥/£</b>		
								
<b>Pound</b>			<b>Dollar</b>			<b>Yen</b>		
at 5pm	Change	Yr Ago	at 5pm	Change	Yr Ago	at 5pm	Change	Yr Ago
Dollar	1.6730	+0.55c	1.6240	Sterling	0.5977	-0.20p	0.6158	
0-Mark	2.3603	+0.27m	2.3603	0-Mark	1.7987	-0.43p	1.7282	
Yen	221.01	+¥2.75	205.97	Yen	132.13	+¥1.24	126.86	
S Index	106.00	+0.10	99.70	S Index	109.60	+0.30	105.00	

<b>OTHER INDICATORS</b>				
at 5pm	Delta	Chg	Yr Ago	
Brent Oil (\$/b)	13.22	-0.02	17.92	
Gold (\$)	310.35	-2.30	309.85	
Silver (\$)	6.22	-0.10	4.74	

<b>source: Bloomberg</b>	
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#### TOURIST RATES

Australia (\$)	2.4893	Malta (lira)	0.6300
Austria (schilling)	20.37	Mexican (nuevo peso)	12.82
Belgium (franc)	99.90	Netherlands (guilder)	3.2614
Canada (\$)	2.3268	New Zealand (\$)	2.9007
Cyprus (pound)	0.8478	Norway (krone)	12.16
Denmark (crown)	11.14	Portugal (escudo)	204.46
Finland (markka)	8.9592	Saudi Arabia (riyal)	6.0695
France (franc)	9.7367	Singapore (\$)	2.5344
Germany (mark)	2.9123	Spain (peseta)	246.12
Greece (drachma)	503.75	South Africa (rand)	8.0806
Hong Kong (\$)	12.51	Sweden (krona)	12.38
Ireland (pound)	1.1477	Switzerland (franc)	2.4281
India (rupee)	60.78	Thailand (baht)	53.50
Israel (shekel)	5.7649	Turkey (lira)	403853
Italy (lira)	2.081	USA (\$)	1.6272
Japan (yen)	216.02		
Malaysia (ringgit)	5.9904		

Rates for indication purposes only

Source: Thomas Cook

Rates for indication purposes only  
Source: Thomas Cook









## OUTLOOK ON THE GROWING CRISIS OF CONFIDENCE AT A ONE-TIME STAR AND THE NON-AGREEMENT ON GLOBAL INVESTMENT

# Hope, hype and hubris at British Biotech

WHEN it comes to investment, hope is a wonderful thing. It was recently calculated by an analyst that if you added up the projected sales of the entire biotech sector, it came to such an astronomically high figure that, even on the most heroic assumptions about the success of these companies in bringing their products to market and the success of these products once on the market, it couldn't possibly be true. Yet each individual stock is valued by stock markets on the basis of these projections. According to the analyst, Steven Abbott of Credit Lyonnais, the biotech sector might as a result be overvalued by as much as five times. Some biotech companies should eventually justify their valuations, but on the basis of this calculation, four out of five of them will come to naught. Most of the value in biotech floats on hope alone.

There is a not dissimilar phenomenon taking place in telecommunications right now. Some of the upswing of the last year or so among telecommunications stocks is down to the perceived market opportunity from deregulation in Europe. Yet if you add up the projected market shares of all the hopeful newcomers and lay them alongside what analysts think will happen to the present market incumbents, you get to a figure of way in excess of 200 per cent. Plainly, they cannot all be right.

Most of the time, the market only has itself to blame when projections get hyped to this degree. Managements can hardly be faulted for having ambitious targets; the problem lies with investors in taking them at face value.

British Biotech, on the other hand, may fall into an entirely different category. The question to be addressed by regulators here is whether the company and its officers became so blinded by ambition, hubris and greed, that they wrongly encouraged these optimistic projections, and worse, withheld damaging test results about their drug discoveries from public disclosure. Did directors who would have known this information profit from the hype by selling their shares? What of the company's subsequent £230m rights issue? Plainly this moves beyond the offence of over-enthusiasm, which is common enough throughout business, never mind this sector, into that of misleading investors.

It would be wrong for this column to attempt to answer this question. Obviously, British Biotech became hugely over-hyped, but as to whether investors were actively misled, we so far only have the evidence of the company's sacked former head of research, Dr Andrew Millar, and he self-evidently has an axe to grind. Certainly the company strongly disputes his case. None the less, the allegations are cause for grave

concern and it is hard to see how the present chief executive, Keith McCullagh, can survive them. Whatever the truth or otherwise of what Dr Millar says, Mr McCullagh stands accused of precipitous loss of shareholder value and of running an unruly senior management team. In most companies, that in itself would be enough to see him out the door. As for investors, their best hope seems to lie in the possibility that the wreckage still contains something worth bidding for.

## Talks failure is bad for the world's poor

THE Multilateral Agreement (or now, non agreement) on Investment has managed to generate an extraordinary degree of heat and noise for what on the face of it is an eminently sensible and quite uncontroversial international initiative further to integrate the world economy. The idea was that any country that signed up to it would agree to treat investors from other signatories on the same terms as indigenous investors. There now, that's not too bad, is it? Well actually it seems to some to have been about the worst thing since Eve introduced the concept of evil into the world.

The crisis in Asia, which some have blamed on global capital markets, has trig-

gered a fearful anti-globalisation backlash. Much of this comes from those who have always been anti-multinational and against the power and influence of capital markets, but just recently it has taken on new converts. In any case, enough politicians have become sufficiently concerned about the pace of globalisation and the potential political and social consequences of it to ensure that the MAI has once more ground to a halt. It is the first bit of the international financial architecture, as the buzz phrase goes, obviously to have fallen victim to the Asian crisis.

Partly this is simply down to the way negotiations over the MAI have been proceeding, i.e. amongst the select club of OECD members, in secrecy and with just the dimmest of distant realisations that democracy might actually matter in international finance. Add in US and French concerns about their national interests in all such matters, and difficulties were inevitable.

However, the root cause of this failure was probably Asia. Britain playing a commendable role in cheerleading for as much liberalisation as possible, but its voice has been drowned out by the crisis in Asia, which may have knocked the process of further global deregulation back years.

This is unfortunate. The Department for International Development recently

published research by Oxford academics which concluded that the right kind of MAI could prove a massive boon to the world's poor. A new publication from the OECD's own experts yesterday drew much the same conclusion. It calculated, for example, that the last round of trade liberalisation, the Uruguay Round, had delivered the equivalent of a \$200bn global tax cut.

The moral is that the lobby groups should be fighting for the right kind of MAI rather than opposing it tooth and nail. A deal brokered by the World Trade Organisation, where developing countries have a voice, might be a sensible alternative. However, such is the wave of fashionable anti-globalisation sentiment sweeping the world post the trouncing of the former Tiger economies, that this may not be an option. The protectionism being demonstrated by the US and France is being welcomed by supposed defenders of the world's poor. Many trade unionists would rather stick with the present framework for negotiations, having made progress in getting governments and employers to recognise their concerns about labour standards in the third world.

If the MAI does fall by the wayside for good, it will be one of the biggest costs so far imposed on the rest of the world by events in Asia.



East meets West: Helen Liddell, Economic Secretary to the Treasury, and Kyu Sung Lee, the Korean Finance Minister, at the OECD meeting in Paris

## Deadlock on global investment accord

By Diane Coyle  
Economics Editor

A ROW over the future of a controversial plan to liberalise international investment erupted yesterday at the meeting that was supposed to have seen its adoption.

Finance and economics ministers meeting in Paris at the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development could not agree whether to shelve the Multilateral Agreement on Investment or press on with negotiations to complete it.

Ministers at the meeting did give a tentative welcome to Japan's package of measures to boost its ailing economy, announced at the end of last week. But it fell far short of the endorsement specifically requested by Japan's finance minister in order to help boost confidence.

Discussions on the MAI, which started in 1995 and were due to be completed this week, became fraught when Dominique Strauss-Kahn, France's finance minister, told the opening session of the meeting yesterday that the plan should be suspended.

Several countries, including France, have become concerned that the creation of a level playing field for investment between countries accepting the MAI would override national interests.

The negotiations have also come under bitter attack from Third World lobby groups, who argue that further liberalisation of international investment was ignoring the interests of the poor and the environment.

A draft statement on the MAI acknowledged these concerns. It said the agreement should take "full account of economic concerns and political, social and cultural sensitivities". It also set out that the agreement must not interfere with the sovereign rights of governments.

Yet after hours of talks yesterday, there was no consensus about how or whether to take forward the deadlocked negotiations. Whatever the outcome today, after the second day of the meeting, little progress is expected until the autumn, after the US Congressional elections. Renato Ruggiero, director

general of the World Trade Organisation, said yesterday it was assessing whether to start its own investment talks, including developing countries in the discussions. These would almost certainly replace any negotiations at the OECD if they went ahead.

Other OECD members, including Britain, are keen to press on with the existing plan. Helen Liddell, Economic Secretary to the Treasury, said yesterday: "I think it would be unfortunate if we were to kick into touch the MAI. Suspension would mean it could disappear."

Like other ministers attending the meeting, Mrs Liddell welcomed the Japanese economic package. Koji Omu, Japan's Minister for Economic Planning, pleaded for support from other ministers. Japan has asked the OECD to revise up its forecast for growth this year, sticking with its own prediction of a 1.9 per cent rise in GDP. But other countries kept up the international pressure on the Japanese Government to make sure the stimulus works in practice.

Outlook, this page

## Mild winter means price rises for gas consumers

By Michael Harrison

GAS consumers are facing price rises above the level of inflation this autumn from Transco, the transportation arm of BG, even though its new pricing formula is supposed to produce real reductions in domestic bills.

The average household bill will rise by about £4.20 a year in October, following an increase of 4 per cent in transport charges, which account for 40 per cent of the total bill.

A Transco spokesman said the increase was happening because it had under-recovered £190m in revenues last year due to the warm weather. The pricing formula agreed with the gas regulator Ofgas allows it adjust

prices to compensate for this. He added that the price rise would have been 6 per cent had Transco not agreed to phase the recovery of the £190m over two years.

But the Gas Consumers Council questioned the increases. "Due to the mild winter, consumers who thought they would save money will end up paying more than the level of inflation for gas transportation," said its director, Sue Slipman. "This looks like a perverse effect of Transco's pricing methodology."

Transco's price formula should limit increase in transportation charges to 2 per cent less than the rate of inflation. This year it said the average in-

crease would be 2 per cent. But within this there is a wide range for different consumers.

The GCC estimated that while domestic charges would rise by 4 per cent, large industrial users on interruptible contracts could see reductions of up to 32 per cent.

Ms Slipman added that there were growing worries about the way the formula worked and the way benefits of price reductions were shifting in favour of big commercial users.

Transco said the increase worked out at less than a penny a therm on the average domestic consumption of 650 therms a year. It was up to suppliers whether or not to pass on the increases.

## Electricity firms warned on sales

competition from September.

Professor Stephen Littlechild said that in extreme circumstances suppliers could have their licences revoked, although he expected most of them to comply with new codes

of practice designed to improve consumer protection.

He was speaking as the Office of Electricity Supply launched a £2.5m campaign to promote the liberalisation of the market which will enable all 26

million domestic customers to shop around for a supplier by June next year.

Competition will be introduced first for customers of Eastern, Manweb, Seeboard, Yorkshire and Scottish Power

with other regions following in tranches in October and December.

Price reductions are not expected to exceed 10 per cent - half the level of the savings when the gas market was liberalised - and Professor Littlechild said initially only 5 per cent of customers might switch.

### GOLDSMITHS

Aberdeen  
Bath  
Bradford  
Brighton  
Canterbury  
Chelmsford  
Cheltenham  
Chester - Esher  
Gateshead  
Guildford  
Leeds - Leicester  
London, Bishopsgate  
Nottingham - Sheffield  
Torquay - Wigan  
Wilmslow

### WALKER & HALL

Altrincham  
Cardiff  
Dudley, Merryhill Centre  
Ilford - Leicester, Shires  
Lincoln - Middlesbrough  
Newcastle  
Nottingham - Oxford  
Sheffield, Meadowhall  
Thurrock - Woking  
NORTHERN GOLDSMITHS:  
Newcastle  
ALFREO CHILLICOTT & CO.  
Bristol  
GEO. ATTENBOROUGH:  
London, Fleet Street  
BRACHER & SYONHAM:  
Reading  
GEO. FARRER:  
Tunbridge Wells  
MUNSEY & CO:  
Cambridge  
STRADLINGS:  
Gillingham  
J A HASKELL:  
Ipswich  
ROBINSON:  
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GOLDSMITHS



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The first officially appointed Rolex stockists in the UK.

Illustration: Rolex Oyster Perpetual Datejust Chronometer with diamond-set bezel and Roman numeral hour markers. For more information about your local jeweller, please call 0208 725 1171 or 0800 467 576.







# Our economic slowdown could be the South Downs or the Matterhorn



**HAMISH  
McRAE**

**ON FACTORS  
THAT COULD  
CHANGE THE  
WAY WE COME  
OFF THE  
GROWTH CURVE**

IT IS coming-off-the-curve time. At some stage during the next six to nine months there will be a slowdown in the UK economy. That is bound to happen. What we don't know is how we will come off the growth curve: will it gently flatten, or will there be a sharp peak followed by a rapid decline? Is it the South Downs or the Matterhorn?

The question has been given a new edge by the apparent shift of mood in the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee. Whereas a few weeks ago the general expectation was that there would be one more rise in rates - the hawk would win - now the market expects that this will prove to be the peak. Why? The latest view is that the economy is cooling of its own accord and won't need that last kick in the face to stop it.

Now I happen to think the evidence upon which that view is based, mainly a fall in the rate of decline in unemployment and slightly slower growth in GDP in the first quarter, is a bit thin. The economy, in the South-east at least, still feels very buoyant, and private sec-

tor services are still seeing very strong demand. But calling the economic downturn as much an intuitive judgement as a factual one, for if you wait for the facts you will be too late.

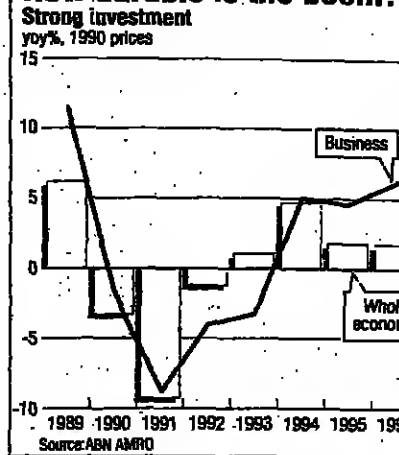
Besides, there is a second sort of debate about the economy which seems to me to be more interesting than taking its temperature. It is whether there has been any significant change in its ability to grow. The argument that there have been structural changes in the economy which will lift its long-term growth rate is based on rather thin evidence, but it may still be true.

The first point here is that investment has been steady and strong right through the whole growth phase of the 1990s (left-hand graph). You would expect that, for companies respond to demand by increasing capacity, but it is encouraging that despite the squeeze on manufacturing margins from the high pound, there has been no let-up in spending. If you spend money on investment, you increase capacity. The more you increase capacity the greater your ability to continue decent growth.

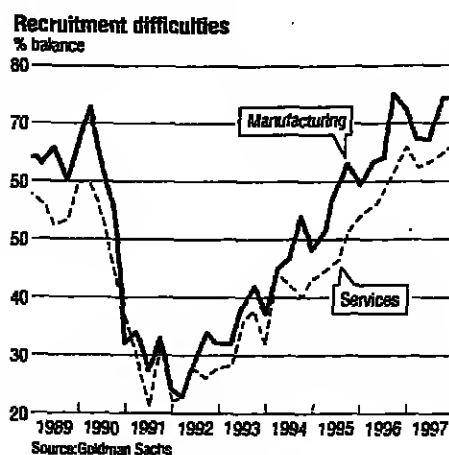
The second point is that the shortages of labour that are becoming evident, seem more serious in manufacturing than in services (right hand graph). Companies always report that they are having difficulty finding staff. Even at the bottom of the longest recession since the war, a quarter of our companies said they were having difficulty recruiting. Now, unsurprisingly, they are having even more difficulty. What is surprising, surely, is that manufacturing, which has been grown relatively slowly, seems to be having more difficulty finding people than services, which are booming.

There are a number of possible reasons for this. Service industries may be more adept at way in which the collapse of many of the economies in the East Asian time zone has had no effect on those of either the American or the European time zones. We all thought that the links in the global economy were so strong that if one bit

**How durable is the boom?**



**Recruitment difficulties % balance**



growth, it may be able to sustain growth for longer than it would were it focusing more on manufacturing.

If that is right, the peak may come later than we expect. That is helpful for it gives us time to be ready for the adjustment, and makes us more robust in the case of external shocks.

That leads to another group of concerns. Maybe the things which will determine whether the peak is South Downs or Matterhorn will not be internal, but external. Candidate number one is the bursting of the US bubble. In the last few weeks the expression "bubble economy" to describe the US has moved into general use. Anyone who has been in the US recently will be aware of the sense of fizz; but equally they will be aware of the similarity with the UK at the time of our late 1980s bubble or Japan at the peak of its bubble too.

Candidate number two is the fall-out from East Asia. One of the most extraordinary features of the world economy over the last nine months has been the way in which the collapse of many of the economies in the East Asian time zone has had no effect on those of either the American or the European time zones. We all thought that the links in the global economy were so strong that if one bit

went down the others would follow. They haven't.

Or at least they haven't yet. The economic landscape is not stable: the earth is still moving. In the last few weeks there has been the first evidence of a slowdown in China, while Hong Kong suddenly seems to be hitting the first recession it will

**The economic landscape is not stable: the earth is still moving**

have had since the Second World War. So two bits of the region which had hitherto seemed more or less immune from the disease have suddenly caught it.

So there are big question marks over the trend of demand of two of the three time zones. The one we happen to be in, Europe, does seem set for a couple of years of solid growth, for the core economies of Germany, France and Italy are at last growing steadily. It may be jobless growth, but at least it is growth. Question: will the fact

that the UK is physically located in the European time zone protect it from shocks in the other two?

That seems to me to be the absolutely crucial question facing UK policy-makers. We can make a mess of our own economy by misreading the signals it gives, and it happens to believe it would have been much better had Kenneth Clarke, when he was Chancellor, taken the advice of the Bank and increased interest rates earlier. But that is water under the bridge. The Bank has probably increased interest rates just enough to clip the top off the boom. If we have made a policy error, it will be quite a small one.

On the other hand, whether the shape of the top of our boom is South Downs or Matterhorn may not be internally determined. The danger, of course, is that the downturn in the East Asian time zone will finally feed through here just as the US turns down too.

If we were left to our own devices, the overwhelming probability is that we would manage to engineer a South Downs shift from boom to stability: gentle, sustainable, comfortable. But external shocks may change this if we do end up with the Matterhorn it may not be our fault.

## PEOPLE & BUSINESS

**JOHN WILLCOCK**



IS GOD a lawyer? This worrying thought occurred to me after the Office for the Supervision of Solicitors (OSS) in Leamington Spa was flooded on Good Friday, soaking the files of 2,000 people who have lodged complaints against their lawyers.

The incident is given an even more Biblical twist by the fact that it was reported to the Law Society by the secretary of its compliance and supervision committee - Paul Pharaoh. Mr Pharaoh told the committee that the floods covered the ground floor of the office in 4 feet of water and 50 PCs were damaged beyond repair, according to *The Lawyer*.

It could have been worse. I suppose, there was no plague of locusts...

IN CONTRAST to the rest of the country, Gary Rhodes, the spiky-haired TV chef, suffered from a purely man-made flood last week. Builders working in his City Rhodes restaurant in central London forgot to switch the ventilation back on after they finished work in the kitchen. The kitchen grew hotter and hotter, triggering the fire sprinklers and dousing the cooking area in 3 inches of water.

Luckily, the flooding didn't reach the dining rooms but the lunchers present had to be evacuated anyway because of safety concerns, according to Simon Girling, City Rhodes's manager. "It brought the restaurant team and the kitchen team together, because we all had to help out," said Mr Girling. "The staff were very disappointed that Gary wasn't working that day, because they all wanted to see him with his hair down."

THE KPMG press office is obviously a hotbed of political intrigue. A few weeks ago I wrote about Tom Cornwall, a freelance PR who does occasional work for the accountancy firm and who is campaigning on behalf of the Liberal Democrats in south London. Now the head of press relations at KPMG, Tim Roberts, tells me he is running as the Labour candidate for Friern Barnet in north London, in the municipal elections to be held on 7 May.

Fraser Barnett has always been a Tory ward, but judging from how the canvassing

is going, the Tory vote seems to have collapsed. Mr Roberts says: "Despite my promises to my wife, I might well win this one."

Our hero hastily adds that "clearly, I'm not counting chickens. There's a lot to be done. But it's more socially acceptable to vote Labour now than it was before the general election." He had one previous shot at political office, running in Tottenham, where he lives - an even sadder Tory seat, where he harked the Conservative vote.

FOLLOWING the swingeing increase in tobacco duty announced in the Budget, and the latest controversy over passive smoking, it's unusual to hear of someone setting up in the hazy business.

However, that's just what George Rosano has done. Along with partner Barry Taplin, he has opened a stall at Wellington Market in Shropshire dedicated to selling traditional smoking goods.

As well as a wide range of tobacco products and pipes, George offers what he believes is the largest selection of tobacco rolling papers anywhere in the UK.

According to Geoffrey Simon, chairman of Wellington Market Co PLC, (founded by Royal Charter in 1244 and which operates 21 open and covered markets throughout the country) George's stall is unique.

Geoffrey says: "It's definitely one of a kind. In addition to his tobacco products, he is also selling incense sticks... He must be one of the few small businessmen in the country desperately hoping his business goes up in smoke."

PANMURE Gordon, having hired a load of former UBS people, seems to be losing a few analysts to rivals. In recent weeks Michael Bourke, food manufacturing analyst, defected to fast-growing rival Rabobank. Now Mark Josefson, Panmure's stores analyst, is going to Germany to join Sal Oppenheim JR & Cie, a continental fund manager which is starting up a broking operation in Frankfurt.

EYES DOWN, no conforming, your starter for 10: Who, or what, is BT Alex. Brown International?

Here's a clue: It has nothing to do with British Telecommunications, or anyone called Alexander Brown. It is, in fact, the new title for the bits of NatWest Securities which were recently bought by, and merged with, Bankers' Trust. The European cash equities business formerly owned by NatWest started life afresh under the BT banner yesterday, headed by Yves de Balmann and Mayn Shattuck III.

Joseph Lafferty, formerly global head of cash equities at NatWest Markets, has been appointed co-head of global equities sales and trading with Bruce Brandalone. European equity sales and trading will report to Edmond Warner, formerly global head of equities research at NWM.

At 4.30pm last Friday, as the merger deal was being completed, the fire alarm in the investment bank's building went off, prompting everyone to leave - and go down the pub. How reassuring that in some parts of City life, at least, some things never change.

### Foreign Exchange Rates

Country	Spot	1 month	3 month
UK	100.00		
Australia	2.5844	2.5844	2.5844
Canada	0.7158	0.7158	0.7158
Denmark	1.462	1.462	1.462
ECU	1.936	1.936	1.936
France	6.5595	6.5595	6.5595
Germany	1.936	1.936	1.936
Italy	1.936	1.936	1.936
Japan	163.63	163.63	163.63
Netherlands	2.2037	2.2037	2.2037
Sweden	8.4666	8.4666	8.4666
Switzerland	1.4536	1.4536	1.4536
US	1.6456	1.6456	1.6456

### Other Spot Rates

Country	Spot	Dollar
Argentina	16700	10000
Brazil	19128	10000
China	8.2767	10000
Czech Rep.	53.802	10000
France	6.5595	10000
Germany	1.936	10000
Italy	1.936	10000
Japan	163.63	10000
Netherlands	2.2037	10000
Sweden	8.4666	10000
Switzerland	1.4536	10000
US	1.6456	10000

### Interest Rates

Country	Rate	Term
UK	7.25%	Discount
France	5.50%	Discount
Germany	5.50%	Discount
Italy	6.50%	Discount
Japan	5.50%	Discount
Netherlands	5.50%	Discount
Sweden	5.50%	Discount
Switzerland	5.50%	Discount
US	5.50%	Discount

### Bond Yields

Country	3 month	1 year	2 year	5 year	10 year
Australia	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Canada	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
France	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Germany	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Italy	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Japan	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Netherlands	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Sweden	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Switzerland	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
US	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00

### Money Market Rates

Country	Overnight	1 week	1 month	3 month	6 month	1 year
UK	5.50%	5.50%	5.50%	5.50%	5.50%	5.50%
France	5.50%	5.50%	5.50%	5.50%	5.50%	5.50%
Germany	5.50%	5.50%	5.50%	5.50%	5.50%	5.50%
Italy	6.50%	6.50%	6.50%	6.50%	6.50%	6.50%
Japan	5.50%	5.50%	5.50%	5.50%	5.50%	5.50%
Netherlands	5.50%	5.50%	5.50%	5.50%	5.50%	5.50%
Sweden	5.50%	5.50%	5.50%	5.50%	5.50%	5.50%
Switzerland	5.50%	5.50%	5.50%	5.50%	5.50%	5.50%
US	5.50%	5.50%	5.50%	5.50%	5.50%	5.50%

### Life Financial Futures

Contract	Settlement	High	Low	Est floor	Open
Long Call	Jan-98	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84
Short Put	Jan-98	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84
Long Call	Feb-98	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84
Short Put	Feb-98	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84
Long Call	Mar-98	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84
Short Put	Mar-98	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84
Long Call	Apr-98	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84
Short Put	Apr-98	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84
Long Call	May-98	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84
Short Put	May-98	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84

### Life FTSE 100 Index Option

Service	Call	Put	Call	Put	Call	Put
Jan-98	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84
Feb-98	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84
Mar-98	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84
Apr-98	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84
May-98	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84

### Energy

Contract	Settlement	High	Low	Est floor	Open
Long Call	Jan-98	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84
Short Put	Jan-98	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84
Long Call	Feb-98	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84
Short Put	Feb-98	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84
Long Call	Mar-98	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84
Short Put	Mar-98	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84
Long Call	Apr-98	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84
Short Put	Apr-98	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84
Long Call	May-98	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84
Short Put	May-98	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84

### Commodity Indices

Index	Settlement	High	Low	Est floor	Open
Jan-98	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84
Feb-98	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84
Mar-98	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84
Apr-98	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84
May-98	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84	10.84

### Latest Unit Trust Prices

Fund	Price	YTD
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00

### INTERNET > TERMINALS > TELEVISION

Fund	Price	YTD
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00

### THE ONLY WAY TO PREDICT THE FUTURE

Fund	Price	YTD
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00

### THE POWER TO SHAPE THE FUTURE

Fund	Price	YTD
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00

### THE FUTURE

Fund	Price	YTD
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
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ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00

### THE FUTURE

Fund	Price	YTD
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	1.00
ABN Growth Trust Ltd	1.00	





An aerial view of the unfinished main Olympic stadium for the Sydney 2000 games, which will hold 110,000 spectators. Juan Antonio Samaranch, the IOC president, visited the site recently and said: 'What I can say is that it is the most impressive stadium I have ever seen'.

# McKiernan has the world at her feet

## Athletics

By Mike Rowbottom

CATHERINA MCKIERNAN, Ireland's first London Marathon winner, is likely to make an attempt on the world best this autumn on the course where she made her marathon debut last September - Berlin.

The 28-year-old former's daughter from Co. Cavan achieved the fastest ever debut in Germany, 2hr 23min 44sec, and she and her coach, Joe Doonan, believe she is capable of challenging the mark of 2:20:47 set by Kenya's Tegla Loroupe in Rotterdam a week before Sunday's Flora London Marathon.

"I think if the weather conditions are right we can have a serious go at the record," said Doonan, a primary school principal who has coached McKiernan since she was an 11-year-old. "Catherina ran the second half so quick that with a bit more experience I'm sure she can go even quicker."

Yesterday, as McKiernan prepared for the acclaim of a gratified nation upon her return to Dublin, she spoke of wanting to run an autumn marathon in either Amsterdam or Berlin.

The Berlin course is recognised as one of the fastest in the world after Rotterdam, where both the men's and women's world marks have been set. But McKiernan's focus next spring is likely to be altered, if only temporarily, from the marathon - she has her heart set on winning the world cross country title, which has so far eluded her, when it is hosted by Belfast.

In the meantime, McKiernan, who received a congratulatory phone call from Ireland's president, Mary McAleese, after Sunday's victory in 2:26:26, is planning to escape the public gaze for a few days' holiday.

"There was a lot of publicity before the race, a lot of hype," she said. "All the bus shelters in Ireland have had pictures of me advertising this race and there's been a lot in the press. But I didn't let it get to me."

While McKiernan's press was all about expectation, Spain's Abel Anton, who won the men's title in a time that was just two seconds outside the course record of 2:07:55, spent the weeks under the shadow of accusation.

Portugal's defending champion Antonio Pinto, who finished third on Sunday behind Anton and the Moroccan, Abdelkader El Mouaziz, was quoted as being sceptical about the huge recent success at distance running of Spaniards in general and Anton in particular.

Anton, and his manager Miguel Mostaza, vigorously defended the Spanish position, and Pinto subsequently denied he believed there was any wrongdoing. Pinto's statement that he regarded Anton as a friend appeared to be borne out in the closing stages of Sunday's race as he and the Spaniard chased El Mouaziz. The Portuguese runner waved Anton through for a lone pursuit when he realised he could no longer keep pace.

Abel, who has won four of his five marathons - including last year's World Championships in Athens, called yesterday for the sport's international governing body to increase blood testing.

"I'm happy to pass any type of test whenever the IAAF want," said Anton, who claimed he was the first ever athlete to take a blood test after last year's Bissett Games in Oslo.

"But the law must be the same for everyone," he added. "I've lived in the same town, so the testers know where they can find me. It's much more difficult to trace athletes in Africa for example."

# Coulthard's credentials restored

By Derrick Allison

THE beer flowed, the rock music boomed into the balmy evening air and two of motorsport's hardened professionals wore the self-satisfied countenance of the vindicated.

David Coulthard's victory in the San Marino Grand Prix here on Sunday had restored his status as a world championship contender and pushed back the questions about his future.

It also provided ammunition for Ron Dennis and Norbert Haug, respectively principle directors of McLaren and Mercedes, in justifying their faith in the Scotsman despite the mounting speculation that they would attempt to lure Michael Schumacher from Ferrari.

Mika Hakkinen presented his case for the defence by taking an early command of the championship and Coulthard was conscious he had to counter his McLaren team-mate.

"It's a great achievement for David I'm happy for him,"

Haug said. "He's taken a lot of criticism recently and it's not right. It was very unfair."

"I knew he would respond well. He's that kind of guy. He's showed he's a great driver and he made no mistakes all weekend. There was a lot of pressure and it's a fantastic result."

"It shows we made the right decision last year when we had to choose one or both drivers. We decided to stick with David and he's proved us absolutely correct. He's very focused and has a big future ahead of him."

Coulthard's victory took him

above Schumacher into second place and within three points of Hakkinen, and Dennis was intent on heading off further conjecture of conflict within his team.

"A little suggestion of internal friction within a Grand Prix team is very newsworthy, but really there isn't here," Dennis said. "When you have Michael Schumacher breathing down your neck you have to handle it and have a strategy that doesn't present him with any opportunities he can take advantage of. He certainly keeps you

awake, but if his car and ours are running well, without any problems, I think he will struggle to beat us."

Coulthard begins testing at Barcelona tomorrow in preparation for the Spanish Grand Prix, on Sunday week, with the conviction he can sustain his championship momentum.

"It's hard to ignore all the talk about my future, but the best way to respond is to get a win and I've done that," Coulthard said.

"You have to take yourself back to your core of belief and

motivation. I know I'm quick enough to challenge for the title and I have to remind myself of that. This sort of win can put you on a roll and I'm going in the right direction."

One of Coulthard's earlier mentors, Jackie Stewart, the hapless Jan Magnussen with Joss Verstappen as he attempts to change the fortunes of the Stewart Ford camp.

Ford, meanwhile, are said to have had talks with Benetton with view to a possible link-up next season.

## PHILIPS COTONE



Today we publish the updated results of The Independent Fantasy Football League. The league table includes all scores up to APRIL 19th. The player list includes scores from all games played until April 27th. Neither set of scores includes results from the FA Cup. The overall winner at the end of the season will win a pair of tickets to the World Cup finals in France this summer.

Every time one of your players score you get four points. There are four points for a keeper or a defender every time their team keeps a clean sheet. If a player scores the winning goal, i.e. if there is a one goal difference in the scoreline, the player scoring the final goal for the winning team is awarded 1 bonus point (rounded in addition to standard goal related points). Each successful Assist, a pass judged by our experts to lead directly to a goal, will give a player 3 points. The opinion of our experts on the matter is final. Each player selected and starting a game will be awarded one point.

If a player is given a Yellow Card they lose 1 point. If a player is given a Red Card they lose 3 points. Own goals, either scored or conceded, do not count.

The Premiership Manager that you choose will be awarded 3 points if their real-life team wins. 1 point is awarded if they draw and no points are given if they lose.

Updated player scores and league tables will be published every Tuesday in The Independent and repeated the following Sunday in the Independent on Sunday.

HOW TO SCORE	
Player scores	4
Clean sheet	4
Winning goal	1
Assist	3
Yellow card	-1
Red card	-3
Manager's team wins	3
Draw	1
Lose	0

# Independent Fantasy Football

OVERALL SCORE CALCULATED ON MATCHES PLAYED FROM 8 AUGUST - 27 APRIL

LEAGUE TABLE			
CALCULATED ON MATCHES PLAYED FROM 8 AUGUST - 19 APRIL			
POS	NAME	TEAM	POINTS
1	Mr D Edmington	Edmo United	1068
2	Mr C King	Seeking Victory	41063
3	Mr P Tuller	Pin Ups	41063
4	Mr D Evans	Bootham End Old Boys	1063
5	Mr J Cox	Southville FC	1063
6	Mr I Hayes	Early Birds	1057
7	Mr Archer	Wembley Bounders	1053
8	Mr I Boyle	Tony's Boys	1053
9	Mr A Wingrove	Diana's Demons	1053
10	Mr T Lyons	Simply The Best	1051
11	Mr D Baker	Deja Vu	1046
12	Mr D Sari	The Untouchables	1039
13	Mr D Aston	Billy's Boy's 2nd 11	1039
14	Mr G Bell	The Harp Minsters	1039
15	Mr S Scott	Unbeatable	1039
16	Mr M Pawley	Robert's Raiders	1037
17	Mr A Choudi	Nikkies 9th 11	1034
18	Mr S Scott	The Dream Team	1032
19	Mr M Ewins	Mike's B Team	1031
20	Mr K Boyle	Clogston Rovers	1027
21	Mr M Ewins	I've Started But Will I Finish	1027
22	Miss L Wild	Amersham FC	1021
23	Mr A Mitchell	The Eye For It	1021
24	Mr A Mitchell	Nursery Park Rovers	1021
25	Mr D Aston	Billy's Boy's 3rd 11	1021
26	Mr P Cridland	PDC2	1020
27	Mr S Mann	Rebecca Rovers	1019
28	Mr M Ewins	Mike's B Team	1018
29	Mr T Brazier	Wow For Short	1017
30	Mr G Bell	Nursery Park Rovers	1015
31	Mr G Bell	Stunning Stunts	1015
32	Mr J McCrossan	Washed Up Army	1011
33	Mr J Brown	The Hooblers	1010
34	Mr N Reat	Tim's Tiger	1007
35	Mr D Ackroyd	Jack's Lads	1006
36	Mr J McCrossan	Washed Up Army	1005
37	Mr M Mitchell	Induring Image	1005
38	Mr G Whitebread	Tween Team	1005
39	Mr S Hog	Hog's Train	1002
40	Mr Brady	Look Lively	1002

GOAL KEEPER	TEAM	PTS	GOALS	PTS	GOALS	PTS	GOALS	PTS	GOALS		
GOALKEEPERS											
301	Seaman	ARS	5	71	28	458	Anderson	BLA	5	9	25
302	Lake	ARS	0	10	45	35	Cox	BOL	5	24	25
303	Manninger	ARS	0	50	30	459	Elliot	BOL	0	12	30
304	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	460	Farrington	BOL	0	6	20
305	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	461	Taggart	BOL	1	29	25
306	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	462	Bergeson	BOL	1	59	15
307	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	463	Doherty	CHE	1	29	25
308	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	464	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
309	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	465	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
310	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	466	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
311	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	467	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
312	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	468	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
313	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	469	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
314	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	470	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
315	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	471	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
316	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	472	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
317	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	473	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
318	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	474	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
319	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	475	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
320	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	476	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
321	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	477	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
322	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	478	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
323	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	479	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
324	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	480	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
325	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	481	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
326	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	482	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
327	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	483	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
328	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	484	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
329	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	485	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
330	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	486	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
331	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	487	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
332	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	488	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
333	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	489	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
334	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	490	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
335	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	491	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
336	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	492	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
337	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	493	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
338	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	494	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
339	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	495	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
340	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	496	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
341	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	497	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
342	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	498	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
343	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	499	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
344	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	500	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
345	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	501	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
346	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	502	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
347	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	503	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
348	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	504	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
349	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	505	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
350	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	506	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
351	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	507	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
352	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	508	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
353	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	509	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
354	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	510	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
355	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	511	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
356	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	512	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
357	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	513	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
358	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	514	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
359	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	515	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
360	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	516	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
361	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	517	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
362	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	518	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
363	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	519	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
364	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	520	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
365	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	521	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
366	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	522	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
367	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	523	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
368	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	524	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
369	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	525	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
370	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	526	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
371	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	527	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
372	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	528	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
373	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	529	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
374	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	530	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
375	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	531	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
376	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	532	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
377	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	533	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
378	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	534	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
379	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	535	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
380	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	536	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
381	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	537	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
382	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	538	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
383	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	539	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
384	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	540	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
385	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	541	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
386	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	542	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
387	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	543	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
388	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	544	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
389	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	545	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
390	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	546	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
391	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	547	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
392	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	548	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
393	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	549	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
394	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	550	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
395	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	551	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
396	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	552	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
397	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	553	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
398	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	554	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
399	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	555	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
400	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	556	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
401	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	557	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
402	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	558	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
403	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	559	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
404	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	560	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
405	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	561	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
406	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	562	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
407	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	563	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
408	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	564	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
409	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	565	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
410	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	566	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
411	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	567	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
412	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	568	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
413	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	569	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
414	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	570	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
415	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	571	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
416	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	572	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
417	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	573	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
418	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	574	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
419	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	575	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
420	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	576	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
421	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	577	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
422	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	578	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
423	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	579	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
424	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	580	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
425	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	581	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
426	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	582	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
427	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	583	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
428	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	584	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
429	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	585	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
430	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	586	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
431	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	587	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
432	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	588	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
433	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	589	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
434	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	590	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
435	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	591	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
436	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	592	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
437	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	593	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
438	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	594	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
439	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	595	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
440	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	596	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
441	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	597	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
442	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	598	Booth	CHE	1	59	15
443	Booth	ARS	0	10	45	599	Booth	CHE	1	59	15



# Guineas contenders form a queue to take on Xaar

By John Cobb

XAAR may prove to be the wonder horse of the season and many more hope for but the presence of last season's outstanding two-year-old has failed to deter potential challengers in Saturday's 2,000 Guineas.

Twenty-three rivals were yesterday left to the Newmarket Classic for which the André Fabre-trained colt has been odds-on favourite since his winning reappearance in the Craven Stakes. The race looks likely to have its biggest field since 23 went to post in 1994.

Only five colts were taken out of the race, including Derek who ran in Sunday's Italian 2,000 Guineas, and Impressionist, whose trainer Aidan O'Brien, is likely to rely

on King Of Kings but has also left Second Empire in the race. Thoroughbred runner-up to Xaar in last season's Dewhurst Stakes, could be re-routed to Newmarket from his intended reappearance in the French Guineas. Tim Jones, representing

**RICHARD EDMONDSON**  
NAP: Ballard Lady (Nottingham 2.45)  
NB: Tissue Of Lies (Ascot 7.05)

sending the colt's owners, Highclere Racing, said: "It depends on the ground. If the ground at Newmarket looked as though it was going to be good to soft or better and it was heavy in France then we would consider running him at Newmarket. There are slight doubts

over his stamina and we preferred the logistics of the French race. We thought he had more chance of getting the trip over there," Jones said.

Having said that, the doubts are not significant and if he goes to Newmarket we are confident of a big run. He has improved significantly physically during the winter and I would be surprised if some marked improvement in ability isn't associated with the way he has strengthened out."

Godolphin, yet to decide on running plans, have left in all four of their entries: Almutawak, Alibor, Central Park and Zaya. However, Sheikh Mohammed's organisation have narrowed their options in the following day's 1,000 Guineas, with Asfurah, Bahr, La Nuit

Rose and Shmooose all taken out yesterday. Saeed bin Suroor's two contenders are the favourite, Cape Verdi, and Embassy, who has been the subject of unfavourable reports from Dubai.

Yesterday, though, it was the soft-ground performers who attracted most interest in the betting market. "With rain forecast throughout the week, punters have been snapping up the each-way value about some of the bigger priced horses with form on softened ground," David Hood, of William Hill, reported. Cloud Castle and Daubing Lady have been the best backed with Hills in the 1,000, with Border Arrow (16-1 from 25-1) in the 2,000.

Coral have shortened Cape Verdi to 5-2 from 11-4, but Laying Claim to 13-2 from 6-1 and Exclusive to 11-1 from 10-1. "Confidence in the fast-ground contenders like Laying Claim and Jibe is on the wane," Coral's Simon Clare said. Shallow continues to be well supported and was cut to 12-1 from 16-1 with Coral, having been available at 40-1 on Saturday. "The vibes emanating from Ballydoyle are incredibly positive, and the money has not stopped pouring on Shallow since Saturday," added Clare.

Henry Cecil's Classic hope Fleetwood has split a pastern and is unlikely to be back on the racecourse until the autumn.

Tomorrow's Ascot card is in doubt as part of the Flat course is waterlogged. There will be an inspection at 11.30am today.

### 2,000 Guineas Stakes (1m)

NO.	NAME	AGE	SEX	TRAINER	OWNER	WTS	WTS	WTS	WTS
1	ALIBOR (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
2	ALMUTAWAK (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
3	BORDER ARROW (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
4	CENTRAL PARK (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
5	DAGGERS DRAWN (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
6	DEBUT PRINCE (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
7	DOCKRUM (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
8	DUCK ROW (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
9	EVINGOR (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
10	GREENLAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
11	HAMM (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
12	JIMMY TWO (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
13	KING OF KINGS (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
14	LA FAY (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
15	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
16	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
17	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
18	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
19	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
20	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
21	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
22	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
23	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
24	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
25	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
26	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
27	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
28	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
29	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
30	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
31	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
32	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
33	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
34	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
35	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
36	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
37	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
38	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
39	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
40	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
41	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
42	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
43	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
44	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
45	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
46	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
47	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
48	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
49	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
50	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
51	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
52	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
53	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
54	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
55	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
56	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
57	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
58	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
59	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
60	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
61	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
62	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
63	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
64	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
65	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
66	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
67	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
68	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
69	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
70	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
71	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
72	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
73	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
74	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
75	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
76	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
77	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
78	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
79	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
80	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
81	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
82	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
83	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
84	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
85	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
86	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
87	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
88	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
89	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
90	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
91	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
92	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
93	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
94	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
95	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
96	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
97	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
98	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
99	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5
100	LEND A HAND (USA)	2	Colt	André Fabre	Al Maktoum	11.5	11.5	11.5	11.5

1,000 Guineas Stakes (1m)									
				C	H	L	T		
2029-4	ANOTHER FANTASY (25) R Harmon 9			50-1	100-1	100-1	50-1		
210-2	ASHTRAKA (25A) (19) J Donip 9			14-1	14-1	124	12-1		
210-2	CAGE VERDI (24) (9) Saeed bin Saeed 9		D. Dargatz	5-2	5-2	5-2	5-1		
2-1	CLOUD CASTLE (19) (9) C Brittain 9		W. Hagg	6-1	7-1	8-1	8-1		
322-0	CRAZES MENTAL (19) (5) D Hagen-Jones 9			9-1	35-1	40-1	35-1		
322-0	DAUNTING LADY (15) R Harmon 8			9-1	28-1	40-1	35-1		
35-4	ELSHAMASH (14) A Stewart 9			33-1	33-1	20-1	33-1		
101-1	EMBASSY (21) (9) C. Saeed bin Saeed 9			16-1	16-1	9-1	16-1		
3-5	EXCLUSIVE (19) (5) M Stoute 9		W R Swinburn	14-1	14-1	14-1	14-1		
624-5	FORUM (28) C Brittain 9			150-1	100-1	100-1	100-1		
3180-2	JAY GEE (23B) G Marnham 8			200-1	100-1	100-1	100-1		
42-3	JIBE (USA) (19) H Cecil 9		K. Fallon	9-1	10-1	10-1	10-1		
52-1	KING IN WAITING (23) P Cole 9			80-1	35-1	40-1	35-1		
1-1	LOVING CLAIM (21A) (9) C Heat 9		D. Pender	12-2	5-1	11-2	5-1		
334-5	MAMLOUSHA (19) R Harmon 8			60-1	33-1	40-1	30-1		
010-0	QUIN (197) (5) M Topham 8			60-1	60-1	60-1	60-1		
191-1	REGAL REVOLUTION (22B) P Malvern 8			60-1	40-1	35-1	40-1		
20-1	SHAMOUTROU (22) A P O'Shea 9			12-1	12-1	12-1	12-1		
31-1	TARASCON (23B) T Stock 9		P. Stratham	20-1	20-1	20-1	20-1		
610-2	WENDY (15) C Grant 8			100-1	33-1	40-1	33-1		

- 20 declared -

Each-way a quarter the odds, place, 1, 2, 3 declared. Siretry C. Cecil, H. Wilson, H. L. Ladouceux, Y. Tan.







# Ebdon stays focused to reach the quarter-finals

## Snooker

By Guy Hodgson  
The Crucible, Sheffield

ETER EBDON would probably be enigmatic in the green rooms. "I want these courtesies as I can tell you why. It's for you to find out. Like a stripper from a more innocent age it usually covers up as much as it reveals. It was the same yesterday as he reached the quarter-finals of the Embassy World Championship with a 13-5 win over Ireland's Fergal O'Brien. His style had been remodelled

but would the layman be able to tell? "Not really". Could he tell us what other motivational tools he had been using? "No". Instead we got a soundbite: "I don't think it's a question of my focus left me, I left my focus." which was like a piece of Labour Party spin, all very neat until you realised it told you very little. Where's the meat, you might ask. Just do not expect an answer.

Which, if it makes Ebdon appear shallow, is unfair because he is at least as rounded as anyone can be on the snooker circuit. He makes pop records, he

owns race horses and he is also good enough to have reached the final of this tournament two years ago. It is just that he likes to hide a little.

That 18-12 defeat to Stephen Hendry in the final of 1996 had such a diminishing effect on him that it has taken the intervening time and a Nick Faldo-style remodelling to set yourself very high goals it's disappointing when you don't meet those targets.

"I've been highly critical. You could say that I won two tournaments last season but I wasn't playing well, I wasn't going anywhere. Although I got to

No 3 in the world, with my technique that's as far as I was going to get because I got there on sheer determination, hard work and bottle. Now I know I've got the technique."

Certainly there seemed nothing wrong with yesterday. Ahead 13-4 overnight, he lost the first frame of the day, when O'Brien had a break of 67, but closed the match emphatically with a clearance of 124. He will now meet the fourth seed Mark Williams.

That win means Ebdon has already earned more than £3,000 here for the children's

charity SPARKS because he is donating 10 per cent of his earnings. "What better thing could you do for your self worth than raising money for medical research for kids," he said. "It's a great honour."

Ronnie O'Sullivan was a frame short of joining Ebdon in the last eight, leading Alan McManus 12-4 going into last night's evening session. The seventh seed had established a 7-1 lead on Sunday and, if he could have taken six of yesterday afternoon's eight frames, he would not have had to return to the Crucible.

Instead McManus fought back and won the first frame of the day with a break of 71, another to make it 9-3 with a 64, and then frustrated O'Sullivan's break for an evening off with a 57. The winner will meet Jimmy White in today's quarter-finals.

If that contest was one-sided, the remaining second round match between Mark King and Matthew Stevens was anything but. They were level at 8-8 going into last night's session and few clues as to who would get to his first world quarter-final were uncovered.

# Hollioake enjoys a field day

## Cricket

By David Llewellyn  
At The Oval

Warwickshire 207 & 149  
Surrey 405-6  
Surrey win by an innings and 49 runs

IF BRIAN LARA had seen his side's record against Surrey at The Oval it is unlikely the Warwickshire captain would have expected anything other than a defeat of this magnitude. Victory on the old ground is turning into a task of sisyphian proportions. It was all very well for Adam Hollioake, his opposite number at Surrey, to talk of it being "great to get maximum points against a side as good as Warwickshire", but in 75 previous meetings here, Surrey had beaten the Midlands, who began this season as favourites for the Championship, 36 times - 21 of them by an innings.

A dishearteningly inept display by the top order as Warwickshire set about trying to demolish Surrey's first innings advantage of 198 runs, merely added to the disappointment. Lara spared none of the batsmen, not even himself, saying: "The top five have been way below par. Everybody, including me, has to look inside themselves. We have to get runs on the board and we didn't in this game."

In fact, Lara was the only Warwickshire player who tried to adopt a positive approach. His natural game saw him striking eight boundaries as he reached his first half-century of the season, only to fall victim to Mark Butcher, shortly before lunch when essaying a leg glance. That proved to be a critical wicket.

With the rest of the batsmen

not pulling their weight and the Surrey attack on its mettle, there was no way Warwickshire were going to be allowed to record their first win on the ground since 1975. Martin Bicknell was in particularly sharp form from the outset and if he was not taking wickets early on then he was certainly not giving away runs. In fact, the bulk of his five wickets came after lunch.

He accounted for some real

SHANE WARNE has said he is to seek specialist treatment this week on his injured bowling shoulder. After returning from Australia's Test series in India, Warne said his shoulder injury might put him out of the game for two to six months, and he is in doubt for the Commonwealth Games in September and the following tour of Pakistan.

quality as he notched up his 28th five-wicket haul, sending back England's Nick Knight and Douglass Brown, Trevor Peane, David Hemp and Keith Piper. The wicketkeeper, Piper was the first to go, leg before, before the third over of the morning, after being obliged to open the Warwickshire innings in Knight's enforced absence.

By the time Knight entered the fray at the fall of the fifth wicket - the back span was suffering on Saturday kept him out of the action long enough to deny him earlier participation - there was just too much to do. And anyway Surrey were in full cry by then.

Hollioake had Bicknell working from the Vauxhall End and the in-form Ian Salisbury wheeling and dealing his leg-spin from the Pavilion End and it all proved beyond Warwickshire.



Surrey's slip cordon steps up the pressure as Warw's centre slump to an innings defeat at The Oval yesterday

Photograph: Peter Jay

# Leatherdale brightens day

By Jon Culley  
At Leicester

Worcestershire 268-7  
v Leicestershire  
Match drawn

IT IS ON days such as these that cricket can seem a very silly game and its public all the bigger fools for turning up. After three days lost to the weather, the chances of a positive result here yesterday were remote in the extreme - and yet the rules of the Britannic Assurance Championship insisted that the teams play a one-innings match, from which the winner, were there to be one, would take 12 points.

The trouble was that the rules were taken to the letter, Worcestershire deciding, after

Leicestershire had put them in, that if this was to be a one-innings match then the one-innings would be theirs. They duly batted all day, or at least until they were allowed to pack up and leave at 5.20pm. Thus there was no contest at all; merely a public test.

For the spectator, it must have seemed pretty puzzling, not least because both sides had different captains from the ones nominated on Thursday, although Tom Moody, who flew back from international duty in Sharjah on Friday, must have wondered why he bothered to rush across from Worcester yesterday to take over from Graeme Hick. He was too late to toss up and then was out without scoring.

Leicestershire were led by Chris Lewis, after James Whitaker withdrew with a knee problem. This is the same Chris Lewis who sought fulfilment in vain at Nottinghamshire and Surrey after leaving Grace Road under a cloud in 1991. What odds might have been had then on him coming back as captain?

For the record - but only that - the opener Philip Weston spent almost five hours on the same wicket used for the previous day's AXA League match before a brilliant catch by Phil Simmons at mid-wicket dismissed him for 77, one of three victims for the left-arm spin of Matthew Brimston, who snared an unfortunate David Leatherdale for 99.

# Silverwood shines as Yorkshire move ahead in Championship

CHRIS SILVERWOOD set out his stall for inclusion in England's Test squad in Yorkshire's Texaco Trophy Three-Day Event on Sunday. Stark, the only Yorkshire player to play in the County Championship last September, broke his ankle in a fall at West Park at the weekend and could be sidelined for several months. The British show jumper, Tim Stockdale, is also on the casualty list. He underwent surgery on Sunday night after being kicked on the knee by a young horse and will be indefinitely sidelined when his new sponsorship deal is announced next week.

Yorkshire declared their second innings at 105 without loss to set the visitors a target of 322. But although Kim Barnett and Adrian Rollins made a third-wicket stand of 110 Derbyshire slipping to 210 all out. Silverwood boosted his match haul to nine wickets by taking 4 for 42. Courtney Walsh bagged 6 for

42 as Nick Speak's defiant 74 failed to prevent Durham slipping to defeat as Gloucestershire moved to fifth. Steve Harrison and John Wood took three wickets each before Gloucestershire declared their second innings on 103 for 6, setting the hosts a target of 248.

Walsh took 3 for 18 in nine overs as Durham initially slumped to 42 for 4 and, after Speak had sparked a mid-order recovery, the veteran paceman returned to wrap up the nail.

The Sussex captain, Chris Adams, completed his second century of the match against Essex but the return of the rain meant the contest at Chelmsford ended in a draw.

Chelsea's player-manager Gianluca Vialli is chasing two of Italy's brightest young talents: Samuele Dallabona and Riccardo Pagnucci.

Vialli and his assistant, Graham Rix, have watched the pair play for Italy in the European Under-16 Championship in Scotland.

The Italian captain Dallabona, of Atalanta, was outstanding in his role as midfield playmaker. The centre-half Pagnucci was also in commanding form - he is with the Serie B side Torino.

The Premier League has restated the requirement for clubs to field their strongest available team, amid fears that Chelsea will rest their top men prior to the European Cup-Winners' Cup final when they play Bolton Wanderers in a potential relegation decider on the last day of the season.

Chelsea's chairman, Ken Bates, has been lobbying the Premier League to move forward the game against Bolton, as it falls just three days before the Cup-Winners' Cup final in Stockholm. But the Premier League has confirmed that it will not be changing the date of the match.

West Ham have confirmed that the French midfielder Mare Keller is one of several players they have been watching over recent months. He is available on a free transfer this summer from the German club Karlsruhe, due to the Bosman ruling.

## Cricket scoreboard

### Britannic Assurance County Championship

First day of four, today, 11.0

### Durham v Gloucestershire

Gloucestershire (224) beat Durham (40) by an innings and 49 runs

Gloucestershire won the toss and elected to bat first

Gloucestershire: 268-7 (100 overs)

Gloucestershire: 1st innings 268-7 (100 overs)

Gloucestershire: 2nd innings 149-6 (40 overs)

Durham: 405-6 (100 overs)

Durham: 1st innings 405-6 (100 overs)

Durham: 2nd innings 149-6 (40 overs)

Gloucestershire: 1st innings 268-7 (100 overs)

Gloucestershire: 2nd innings 149-6 (40 overs)

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### Leicestershire v Worcestershire

Worcestershire 268-7 (100 overs)

Leicestershire 149-6 (40 overs)

Worcestershire: 1st innings 268-7 (100 overs)

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Worcestershire: 1st innings 268-7 (100 overs)

### Surrey v Warwickshire

Warwickshire 207-7 (100 overs)

Surrey 405-6 (100 overs)

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Warwickshire: 2nd innings 149-6 (40 overs)

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Worcestershire: 1st innings 268-7 (100 overs)



## Those magnificent men in their flying machines



Flying high: Riders take to the air in the world motocross championships in Schwanenstadt, Austria. Darryl King of the Netherlands won the first round of the 500cc from Peter Johansen of Sweden with Germany's Bernd Eckenbach third

## French braced for ticket chaos

Football

By Catherine Riley

WORLD CUP organisers are bracing themselves for another round of accusations of a second fiasco when up to 40,000 additional tickets go on sale today.

First and second-round tickets have been returned by national associations unable to sell their allocations and last week the scramble for tickets resulted in 10 million people in Britain alone jamming the system.

Isabelle Delaye, of the French organising committee (CFO), confirmed the tickets will be sold by the same system, but Graham Bean, the chairman of the Football Supporters' Association, believes that the French are setting themselves up for another fiasco.

"First we hear that there are no more available, then miraculously another 40,000 are on sale," he said. "I've absolutely no doubt the whole thing will end in chaos again." The hotline number is 0033-149-875-354.

Another person who will not be going to the World Cup, it seems, is David Ginola. Aimé Jacquet, the France coach, said yesterday he was not particularly impressed with the Tottenham player. "I have a lot better players than him," Jacquet said. "And I told Spurs coach Christian Gross so when he called me."

Meanwhile, the West Ham goalkeeper, Bernard Lama, will have to wait until France's first game of the finals to see if he wins back his place after Jacquet said he would not decide between him and Fabien Barthez until actually naming his team for the match against South Africa.

Glenn Hoddle, meanwhile, is having his World Cup plans overshadowed by problems off the pitch. The England coach may have to go to court to defend his reputation after psychic Uri Geller insisted that he has no intention of backing down in the face of possible legal action.

Geller told a Sunday newspaper that Hoddle had visited him at his home a couple of years ago and made various claims about what had taken place during the alleged meeting.

Hoddle, however, has described Geller's claims as "an extraordinary combination of lies, inaccuracies, exaggerations and misleading innuendoes" and is taking legal advice.

Spencer clash, page 29

## United secure Stam in £10m world-record deal



Stam: Dream move

By Guy Hodgson

IT SOUNDS corny and convenient but if you had asked Jaap Stam a few months ago which club he would like to join the answer would have been Manchester United. That was even before the Old Trafford money machine was prepared to break the world transfer record for a defender with an offer of £10m.

Now, you suspect, the union is even more acceptable.

Stam, a 25-year-old central defender who has won 11 caps for the Netherlands, will join the English champions next week

after his club PSV Eindhoven had been battered into a deal by both the player and United. The figure represents a compromise from all sides as United have been pushed up from £8m. PSV have come down from nearly twice that and Stam waived a clause in his contract that would have guaranteed 15 per cent of any transfer fee.

"Everyone recognises Jaap Stam as a world-class defender and that's what we need. I'm very pleased that, subject to the formalities, we have managed to sign him," Alex Ferguson, the United manager, said yesterday.

"He's a terrific defender who is quick and can pass the ball. We need top defenders like him for the very top level. I tried to sign Jaap last summer. In fact, we tried very hard to get him, but PSV wouldn't sell."

"It's fair to say that we've had to change our centre-backs a lot this season, but he comes with an excellent playing record and that's important."

The Dutch international's agent, Henk von Hengle, said: "Manchester and PSV both have a game this week, so we intend to come over at the beginning of next week. I am

sure he will be playing in Manchester next season. We don't expect any more problems."

Stam's personal terms should be a formality. "His dream has come true," the PSV coach, Dick Advocaat, said. "He's a real pro, very fast and a good header of the ball."

A 6ft 11in central defender, Stam did not turn professional until the comparatively late age of 19 with FC Zwolle. His manager then was Theo de Jong, who has been a key figure in his development.

When Stam first played for Zwolle he was such a rough di-

amond that De Jong frequently had his judgement questioned. The same thing occurred at Cambuur Leeuwarden and Willem II Tilburg where coach and player followed each other but when Eindhoven paid 1m guilders (£350,000) for him three years ago the doubts fell away.

Stam made a 10-minute international debut as a substitute against Germany in 1996 but came fully to the fore in a friendly against Brazil where his command of the air and his marking of his former PSV team-mate, Ronaldo, confirmed his stature.

Stam, who beat his PSV team-mate Phillip Cocu and the previous year's winner, Ronald de Boer, to the Dutch footballer of the year trophy in 1997, had been contracted to play for Eindhoven until 2003.

His arrival at United will cast question marks over other players. Gary Pallister had been linked with Middlesbrough, while Henning Berg, who cost £5m from Blackburn last autumn, may be forced to leave.

The previous most expensive defender was Spain's Roberto Rios, who moved to Athletic Bilbao from Real Betis for £9m.

## Woodward delays naming tour party

Rugby Union

By Chris Hewett

CLIVE WOODWARD, the England coach, will wait until 12 May before naming his party for the summer tour of the southern hemisphere, thus giving himself an extra fortnight to find 36 players with a full complement of serviceable limbs and sufficient reserves of energy to contemplate completing the most arduous domestic season in history with a thankless visit to Australia, New Zealand and South Africa.

At the last count, no fewer than 14 senior players were either definite non-starters or serious doubts. They included eight automatic first-choices - Lawrence Dallaglio, Jason Leonard, Martin Johnson, Richard Hill, Kyran Bracken, Paul Grayson, Jeremy Guscott and David Rees - plus Dorian West, Tim Rodber, Mike Catt, Phil de Glanville, Tony Underwood and Iain Balshaw among the squad members.

Not surprisingly, there are rumblings of discontent from south of the equator - box-office operatives in Brisbane, Dunedin, Auckland and Cape Town have tickets to sell, hospitality packages to dispose of and broadcasters to appease - and Woodward is acutely aware of the potential for an English public relations disaster.

"There has been a considerable amount of speculation concerning the availability of individuals for this tour and I can understand the concerns of the SANZA countries, who want to

ensure that England sends its strongest possible squad," he said yesterday. "This is a view I have always held, but I have to emphasise that I will only pick players and management who are committed to going and are physically fit to do so."

The management reference was clearly aimed at John Mitchell, the Sale coach whose contribution to England's cause this season has been inestimable. Mitchell has expressed concern at the prospect of an under-strength squad travelling south, raising question-marks over his own participation in the process.

Some leading Rugby Football Union officials fear that the southern hemisphere nations will retaliate to any perceived slight by sending weak sides to England in the autumn. The Australians have been particularly vehement in their demands that the Europeans field high-calibre, high-profile sides, but they have already seen Scotland name an unfamiliar party for this summer's two-Test series.

Meanwhile, Fran Cotton and Cliff Brittle yesterday explained their decision to shelve plans to fight a court action against what they call an Allied Dunbar Premiership clubs "gagging writ". They said in a statement: "We are not prepared to undertake a costly defence without legal support from the RFU, which it has failed to give. Individuals should not be forced to protect international Board regulations at their own expense."

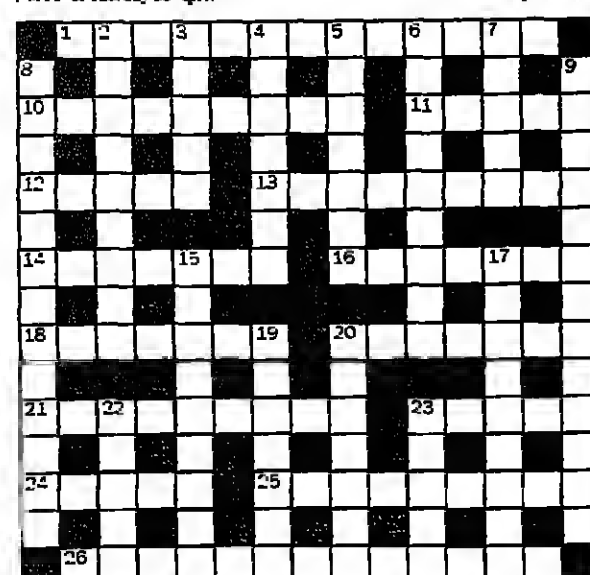
Alan Watkins; All Black Fitzpatrick retires, page 28

## THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD

No. 3596, Tuesday 28 April

By Achard

Monday's Solution



COMMERCIAL  
SOLUTION  
TO  
YESTERDAY'S  
CROSSWORD  
PUZZLE  
WAS  
AS FOLLOWS:  
ACROSS  
1. With plenty of training one gets water supply modified (4,6)  
10. Litigant has straightforward argument (4)  
11. Awfully cruel soreness (5)  
12. Old grim smell (5)  
13. A job preventing start of pain for Peter? (9)  
14. Progress of man with publicity method (7)  
15. Cause eruption as tactless earful is given to President (5,2)  
18. Get-together with me, say, carrying the can (7)  
20. Worry about female in flood (7)  
21. P? (6,3)  
23. Accountant's examination of German car takes time (5)

DOWN  
2. Perhaps perfect numbers to note (5)  
5. Grandee seen if a coming can be arranged (9)  
6. Cashier who dispenses a huge amount of money? (7,6)  
7. Possibly able to speak and add detail (9)  
8. Woman sandwiched between both sides of orbiter (5)  
9. Making one group of soldiers to cover a railway (7)  
10. Perhaps fit - start of space journey? (4,3)  
11. Vary a cut to be made in wind instrument (9)  
12. Do very well to put up shelter accommodating 90 (5)

24. Perhaps rise them separately to be modern? (2,2,3-6)  
25. Impulsive action in the rain (1,3)  
26. A little thing he comes up to consume that has a very high temperature (5,4)  
27. Drug man after record upset diner (9)  
28. Former jazz player could be a saint? (7)  
29. Scare about energy which is to be transported (7)  
30. See island turn to exotic fruit (5)  
31. A team taking on a learner following agreed line (5)

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## 5 facts

about Britain's drug habit

1. The British are the biggest consumers of illegal drugs in Europe.
2. The price of heroin in London has risen by 100 per cent in the last five years.
3. Every day, about 100 people are taken to hospital by drug-related problems.
4. Heroin and cocaine are more addictive than other drugs.
5. Every year, about 100 people in Britain die from drug-related problems.

tonight 10pm on 5



PEOPLE LIFE NEWS